

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

The 11 "Martyrs"

AIR India's statement from Bombay yesterday, giving the survivors' opinion of the cause of the crash of their Constellation last Monday, is bound to be seized by Peking as proof that sabotage sent the 11 passengers and four crewmen to their deaths. Yet the survivors' statement, as it stands, is inconclusive and plausible only by virtue of the facts that the three men were the only survivors and no other details of the crash are known.

No one will accuse them of hatching this story that the fire which ultimately sent the plane plunging into the sea "emanated from an extraneous source wholly unconnected with the structure of the aircraft." Similarly no one can entirely accept it as the definite cause unless or until it is authenticated by the official court of inquiry set up by the Indian authorities after an examination of the aircraft wreckage.

COMMUNIST China in the meantime is playing on the susceptibilities of the millions of ignorant people in Asia who are incapable of finding any other explanation for the crash. China's flagrant presumption (she announced there had been an "explosion" on board the plane within a few hours of a British frigate picking up the three Indian survivors) and her equally heinous prejudgment of the cause could only be accepted by a moron—or a Communist.

Read the British note to Peking again in the light of the survivors' statement that there was a muffled explosion apparently in the baggage compartment. The British note said: "the actual handling of the luggage and the passengers (in Hongkong) was under the supervision of the China Travel Service and of senior officials of Air India. The only articles placed on board the aircraft were the luggage of the party and normal refreshments." If any bombs were placed in the luggage compartment—China's obvious suggestion—who were to blame? Hongkong officials? Clearly no, for the baggage was not under their supervision.

CHINA has blundered badly with its opprobrious charges. Why should any Nationalist or US agent want to kill six Communist journalists and three minor officials? Supposing for a moment there were anarchists bent on striking some blow at the Bandung conference, who were the logical targets? Insignificant officials, easily replaceable journalists or the "big fish"? Chou En-lai landed at Burma and at Singapore—surely sabotage or assassination would have been more profitable there. For in the eyes of the Communists, Nationalist agents are ubiquitous—even in China itself!

But no, the Chinese have levelled trumped-up charges and curiously, virtually every influential newspaper in China has taken up in unison the chorus of protest—as if rehearsed and pre-ordained. The obvious coincidence of the Bandung conference and "Nationalist sabotage" cannot be dismissed. Communist China, including Mr Chou himself, have visited Hongkong before. No anxiety then, if the Communist charges continue the world may accept the "explosion theory" but wonder who were the perpetrators—sinister Nationalist agents hell-bent on mischief and murder or Peking plotters who saw in the immolation of their own dispensable officials, the apparent triumph of a great propaganda cause. In short, are the 11 Communist passengers who died in the crash the martyrs of Bandung... or Peking?

CHINESE REDS BUILD UP AIR POWER

Concentrated
Opposite
Formosa
FOSTER DULLES'
DISCLOSURE

Augusta, Georgia, Apr. 17.

The Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, revealed today that the United States had just learned of a mighty build-up of Red Chinese air power on the mainland opposite Formosa.

Mr Dulles told reporters after conferring with President Eisenhower that the US had learned of the new offensive air strength across the Formosan Strait within the "last few days."

The Secretary said he discussed with Mr Eisenhower, in a two-hour conference at the President's vacation headquarters, the "grave implications" of a Red build-up that was "considerably broader in scope than anything that was known until recently."

Mr Dulles declined to say whether he thought the build-up heralded an attack upon the islands of Quemoy, Matsu or Formosa, but he said it indicated a higher "capability" for such an attack "than we had been aware of a few weeks ago."

Mr Dulles said it was only "several days ago" that the United States learned of the considerable intensification of Red Chinese air power opposite Formosa.

The build-up, Mr Dulles said, has been going on for weeks and is still in progress, but the US knew nothing of it until this news came a few days ago by report from the Far East.

The Defence Department in Washington had no comment on Mr Dulles' disclosure, but one source said he would guess that the news was not reported to the Defence Department by way of Admiral Felix Stump, commander of the US Pacific forces. Admiral Stump flew to Augusta to report to the President yesterday.

The Eisenhower-Dulles conference covered a broad range of vital foreign policy topics which Mr Dulles summarised in a statement and news conference shortly after the meeting. In addition to the Chinese situation, Mr Dulles reported:

1. Soviet Russia, in its recent dealings with Austria, shows signs of being "willing to alter its 10-year stubborn policy of maintaining indefinitely Red forces of occupation in Austria."

He thought the new Soviet attitude concerning Austria might improve prospects for a Big Four meeting.

2. Mr Dulles thought the situation in Vietnam was "difficult" as the Central Government grappled with the problem of bringing about national unity, but he saw "no reason for discouragement" about the possibility of an eventual solution.

3. The President hoped that the forthcoming Asian-African conference at Bandung, Indonesia, would "exert a practical influence for peace where peace is now in grave jeopardy."

GRAVE IMPLICATIONS
"In relation to China," said Mr Dulles in his statement, "we discussed the grave implications of an extensive build-up now in progress, by the Chinese Communists, of offensive air power."

Mr Dulles said the build-up had been going on for several weeks but American knowledge of it developed "in the last few days." He said this most recent information came through the receipt of speedier reports from the Far East.

Admiral Carmey, chief of Naval Operations, late last month was the source of a report that the Red Chinese build-up was such that the Reds could attack Matsu, then Quemoy, at any time after mid-April. This report came from a private dinner attended by Admiral Carmey.

President Eisenhower said a subsequent press conference said he had no such information himself.

Senator Walter George, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, saw the President here last week. Following the meeting, Senator George said Mr Eisenhower should not be pushed into a declaration of what this country might do in the event of an attack on the offshore islands. Senator George thought it was possible that a Red Chinese

Diplomatic
Slap



ATTLEE
HURRYING
BACK HOME

Vancouver, Apr. 17.

Mr Clement Attlee has cancelled an appearance he was to have made at Edmonton, Alberta, next Tuesday so as to return to Britain for the general election campaign.

Mr Attlee, who came to Canada for a speaking tour under the auspices of the Dominion's Socialist Party, announced his change of plan in a telegram to the organisers at Edmonton.

The telegram addressed to Mr Elmer Roper, Socialist leader in Alberta, said "With deep regret I must cancel my address in Edmonton Gardens on Tuesday, April 19."

RECOGNITION PLEA

It is not known immediately if Mr Attlee would cancel his address in Victoria arranged for tomorrow.

At Vancouver last night, Mr Attlee called for United Nations recognition of the Peking regime and advocated co-existence with Communism.

In a foreign affairs speech to an audience of 3,000 he said the Nationalist Government of General Chiang Kai-shek was corrupt and warned that force would not bring about a change of government on the Chinese mainland. He said Formosa should be put under a trusteeship.

Mr Attlee said the Chinese Communist government was not democratic but had done a lot of good work. An attack on China would drive her "into the arms of Russia."—Reuter.

Charged With
Murdering
Two Boys

Wigan, Apr. 17.
A short, slim blond man, Norman William Green, 25, was yesterday remanded in custody for a week charged with the murder of two small boys. Both were stabbed to death.

One boy, Norman Yates, aged 10, was found dying of stab wounds in a back street here on Monday night. The other, William Harmer, aged 11, was killed on August 27 last year.

A detective said that on Monday Norman Yates was sent on an errand by his mother at 9.35 p.m. A minute or two later he called at a neighbour's house.

At about 9.45 p.m. two loud screams came to the ears of neighbours, who found the boy on the ground bleeding severely. Yates was taken to hospital but was dead on arrival. He had been stabbed in the neck and in three places on the body.

Green was arrested where he worked on Friday. "When cautioned at the police station he replied, according to Chief Superintendent Thwaiter: 'I am sorry. I am very sorry for his mother and I hope she forgives me for what I have done.'"

Norman Yates' mother said last week that she had sent her son to get some sugar from his aunt. He was one of a family of five children.—China Mail Special.

There was excitement at the Clear Water Bay ammunition depot last Friday.

A King Cobra was spotted by a soldier in the depot and "Operation Snake Charm" was launched.

Under the watchful and disapproving eye of the cobra, half the contents of the depot were removed to enable the snake-catchers to get at their prey.

After a period of sparring for the right opening, the hunters succeeded in inducing the cobra to stick its head into a wire noose at the end of a bamboo pole. The noose was pulled tight and King Cobra's days ended.

The picture above shows the captured King Cobra which, when measured, was found to be 9 ft 11 ins long.

Opening Of
Bandung
Conference

INAUGURATION
ADDRESS

Bandung, Apr. 18.

President Soekarno of Indonesia today told the 29-nation Asian-African conference it could "inject the voice of reason into world affairs."

"We can mobilise all the spiritual, all the moral, and all the political strength of Asia and Africa on the side of peace," he stated in his inaugural speech.

The Indonesian President attacked colonialism, describing it as "an evil thing and one which must be eradicated from the earth."

He asked the history-making conference of representatives of more than half the population of the world not to be deceived or even soothed by statements that colonialism was dead.

TWO MOTTOES

President Soekarno gave the conference two mottoes: "live and let live" and "unity in diversity."

He asked delegates to remember that "for the sake of all, Asians and Africans must be united."

"If this conference succeeds in making the peoples of the East, whose representatives are gathered here, understand each other a little more, appreciate each other a little more, sympathise with each other's problems a little more—then this conference of course will have been worthwhile whatever else it may achieve."

President Soekarno said: "even the safety of the world at large cannot be safeguarded without a united Asia-Africa."

"MORAL VIOLENCE"
The Indonesian President called for mobilisation of what he described as the "moral violence of nations in favour of peace" as a demonstration to the minority of the world that lives on other continents.

He stated: "Perhaps now more than at any other moment in the history of the world society, government and state-manship need to be based upon the highest code of morality and ethics."

President Soekarno said he was certain that the Asian and African delegates were united by more important things than those which superficially divided them.

"We are united, for instance, by a common detestation of colonialism in whatever form it appears."—Reuter.

PUZZLING
RUSSIAN
MOVE

London, Apr. 17.

Russia's crude diplomatic slap to the Allies quickly dispelled illusions in the West today that the Kremlin's Austria gesture marked a turning point in the cold war.

The Soviet levelled its hands-off-Middle East threat little more than 24 hours after it had completed its courting of the Austrian Ministers in Moscow.

Western diplomats, caught unaware, were frankly puzzled by the motives of the Russian moves which appeared to fore-shadow new trouble in East-West relations.

Officials considered both Russian moves today as calculated policy steps of the Kremlin, whose motives they were unable immediately to analyse.

They firmly rejected the charge of alleged Allied interference in the Middle East and of putting pressure on countries of the area to enter political alliances.

FREELY NEGOTIATED

Both the Turkey-Pakistan pact of 1954 and the more recent Turkey-Iraq pact, officials stressed, have been the outcome of free negotiations between free parties.

The Turkey-Iraq pact, it was pointed out, is open to other nations in the area, notably to members of the Arab League and those "actively concerned with the security and peace of this region."

Recent indications from Teheran were that Iran too may consider its participation in these pacts.

Western diplomats pointed out that the alignment which has encountered Moscow's wrath has sprung largely from the desire of the nations concerned to close the dangerous defence vacuum in that region.

Diplomatic observers said they were at a loss to understand how a free alignment of nations could thus be construed as a threat to peace for consideration of the United Nations.

DISQUIETING SIGNS

And some observers cautioned that the Russian move today might foreshadow possible "developments" in Afghanistan from where disquieting signs have been coming in recent weeks.

The cancelling of the Soviet students' trip to the United States appeared even more puzzling.

The motives were considered by observers as an obvious pretext since the Russians—stucklers for formalities—must have been well aware in advance that fingerprinting was a technical measure and no discriminating step against the Russians.—United Press.

Riot Squad
Starts Riot

Rawang, Apr. 17.

A riot started in earnest when Rawang's new riot squad turned out for practice and 28 police constables were injured.

Four are still in the hospital. Some of the "rioting" constables were instructed to throw cement dust and mud at the regular constables in four armoured trucks. Instead—claim the indignant "victims"—the attack—the constables threw big stones at the approaching riot trucks.

The riot ensued. The first truck stopped dead. The second crashed into it. The third went into a ditch. The fourth smashed into all the others.

An official spokesman admitted that some of the constables said they were hit by stones, but the scene was so confused they are perhaps not quite sure what hit them, he added.

An inquiry will be held. Meanwhile, it was hoped that there will be no riots in Rawang until the riot squad has recovered from its practice session.—France-Press.

RAPE CASE APPEAL DECISION

Conviction
Quashed, New
Trial Ordered

The conviction of Dr Ng Yuk-kin, 49, medical practitioner, on a charge of rape was quashed and a new trial ordered when the Full Court delivered judgment on his appeal this morning.

Dr Ng was found guilty by a Special Jury on December 13 last year of raping Tam Shun, a 24-year-old spinster, at his clinic in Nathan Road, on August 28, 1954. He was sentenced to five years' hard labour by Mr Justice C. W. Reece, Puisne Judge.

The Full Court was of the opinion that on ground two of the appeal (the question of corroboration) there was misdirection amounting to misdirection in law. The Court came to the conclusion that in the interests of justice the appellant should be tried again.

An application by appellant's Counsel for bail was refused, the Court holding that as the date for appellant's new trial would be on April 25 he should be remanded in custody until that date.

The Full Court comprised Mr Justice T. J. Gould (Acting Chief Justice), Mr Justice J. R. Gregg (Puisne Judge) and Mr Justice J. Wicks (Acting Puisne Judge).

Appellant was represented by Mr Brook A. Bernatchi, instructed by Mr M. A. de Silva. Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, appeared for the Crown.

The appeal list 20 grounds, mainly alleging misdirection to the Jury by the Trial Judge in his summing-up.

The Court was filled to capacity shortly before the delivery of the judgment. Special Police Officers were posted inside the Courtroom, as well as in all approaches to the Court.

The appellant was convicted by a Jury of the crime of raping a Chinese female on the 23rd August 1954. On the 27th August, the complainant, a seamstress, twenty-four years of age, was suffering from a stomach pain and wanted to see a doctor. After consulting with her associates she decided to go to the rooms of the appellant who was a medical practitioner with a consulting room at 438 Nathan Road, First Floor, Kowloon.

She went there on the 27th with some other including one Wong Yee Shum, a female acquaintance, and one Tam Tim, a female relative. In the consulting room the accused asked her a number of questions—whether she was married or had a boyfriend, concerning her menstruation and whether she had what was referred to as "the whites." The appellant then gave her a physical examination, pressing the two sides of her abdomen. Her trousers were then removed, or partly removed, either by the nurse or the appellant; the latter then said she was going to wash her private parts with a piece of cotton wool soaked in some liquid. Her face was covered with a dark cloth. In the process of this washing or examination he inserted his finger into her private parts and afterwards cleaned them with cotton wool. She was then given two injections in the buttocks by the nurse on the instructions of the appellant; from a prescription found on the premises it appears that the injections may have been 4cc. and 14cc. of penicillin as these items were entered among other things. The nurse Lau Wai Chun said they were of penicillin. The complainant then went into the waiting room—\$10 being paid for the treatment. In a statement the appellant said he had inserted an "S.V.C." (Special Vagina Tablet) into the vagina during this examination.

TOLD TO RETURN
The complainant was told by the appellant to return the next day. She did so, having with her on this occasion, her relations Tam Tim. Both went into the consulting room, but at some stage Tam Tim was asked to go to the waiting room and did so. According to the complainant the appellant again then asked the same questions about whether she had a boyfriend and about menstruation. She was told to lie down and the (Contd. on back page, Col. 5)

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Just the Way it Happened!

MILITARY BLOCS IN MID EAST

Soviet Allegation May Be Raised In United Nations

United Nations, Apr. 16. Western diplomats took a "wait and see" attitude regarding the Soviet Foreign Ministry threat to raise in the United Nations the question of Western "pressure" in the Near and Middle East to create "aggressive military blocs."

A United States delegation spokesman commented that nothing official has been received regarding the Soviet threat but other Western officials called it "another patent propaganda manoeuvre."

SHARPLY DENOUNCED

The question of Middle East defence arrangements came up in the Security Council two weeks ago when the Soviet delegate, Mr. Arkady A. Sobolev, during a discussion on Egyptian - Israeli - Palestine border problems, blamed Middle East tensions on Western defence programme. Mr. Sobolev attacked Turkey for her alliances with Pakistan and Iraq. He was promptly and sharply denounced by the Turkish, United States and British delegates, among others, for this tactic in attempting to broaden the Palestine debate into a general argument on Middle East affairs.

Western diplomats said the new Moscow threat to make a UN case out of the Middle East defence arrangements could be judged definitively only when she makes known how she would intend to raise the issue through a resolution calling for General Assembly discussion or a demand to the Security Council to take it up as a threat to international peace. — United Press.

A—Explosion Warning

Washington, Apr. 17. Senator Mike Mansfield (Democrat, Montana) issued a grim warning on the effect of continuous atomic explosions on human, animal and vegetable life.

In a speech he is to make in the Senate this week, text of which he published today, Mansfield declared: "The time of decision on the question of survival of civilization, if not of human life itself appears to be drawing uncomfortably close."

Mr. Mansfield said it was the opinion of certain scientists that "the abnormal amount of radioactive activity" released in each atomic explosion would have a "slow but definite cumulative effect upon the earth's atmosphere and, upon its vegetable and animal life and hence upon human life."

The Democrat Senator said that what was involved in "this threat" was not the "frequently voiced fear of slaughter and destruction in war on an unprecedented scale, but of the effects of a hidden insidious, largely undetectable and uncontrollable poison, which perhaps is capable of destroying the human race as a biological genus."

—France-Press.

Juin To Meet Mansergh

Oslo, Apr. 17. Marshal Alphonse Juin, French Commander-in-Chief of NATO forces in Central Europe, is expected to arrive in Oslo tomorrow afternoon for a conference with General Sir Robert Mansergh, British Commander-in-Chief, NATO forces, in Northern Europe.

Marshal Juin, who is accompanied by French Admiral Robert Jauréguiberry, NATO naval commander, Central Europe, will be received in audience by King Haakon of Norway on Tuesday. —France-Press.

RED ENVOY TO LECTURE

London, Apr. 17. Chinese Communist Charge d'Affaires Huan Hsiang is to give a public address at Oxford University on May 16 next. This will be the first time Mr. Huan will have spoken in public since his arrival in Britain last October. Mr. Huan will lecture on "peaceful co-existence."

SURGERY NOW MUCH SAFER

New York, Apr. 17. Surgery is much safer now than it was only a relatively few years ago. The mortality incidental to virtually all types of operations, even the most radical, had been materially reduced, said Metropolitan Life Insurance Company statisticians, who based their report on a study of various hospital experiences.

Surgical mortality in recent years was compared with that about a decade or more earlier for various types of major operations, including surgery for benign and malignant conditions of the digestive tract, and certain female disorders, also diabetic gangrene.

In every one of the experiences reviewed, surgical mortality was reduced by at least one half, and in several instances by more than four-fifths.

REMARKABLE. This record was all the more remarkable in view of the increase in the proportion of older patients, the statisticians said.

Among the factors which had played a part in bringing about this progress, they said, were the better training of surgeons, advances in surgical techniques, the wide use of the newer chemotherapeutic and antibiotic agents to control infection, and improved anaesthetic substances and procedures.

Increasing use of blood transfusion and the practice of getting patients out of bed as soon as possible after an operation, were also credited with having made major contributions to the general progress. —China Mail Special.

New operation

Johannesburg, Apr. 17. A series of experiments on baboons to perfect a rare and difficult heart operation is being carried out by a team of surgeons under Professor W. E. Underwood, head of the Department of Surgery at the Johannesburg Medical School.

The operation is the grafting of new sections on to the aorta, the heart's main artery, something which has never been carried out successfully anywhere in the world.

So far there have been 10 successful operations, mostly on baboons, and another 40 must be fully successful before the operation is tried on a human being. —China Mail Special.

Only five bodies had been recovered 24 hours after the 120-foot high sing pile, loosened by torrential rains, cascaded down upon the community. The death of seven others was also confirmed.

1,000 RESCUE WORKERS

More than 1,000 rescue workers, including 500 members of the Japanese defence forces, resumed their grisly work of digging up bodies early today as the rains let up.

—Eisewhere in Kyushu 19

persons lost their lives in landslides and other disasters. Sixty-four others were reported missing. More than 72,000 homes were flooded throughout the stricken areas and damage to property and communications was extensive.

Jittery inhabitants came in for another shock when an earthquake rocked northern Kyushu this morning. There were no reports of damage from the tremor, however. —United Press.



The Minister of Labour, Sir Walter Monckton (left) arrives with the Commonwealth Relations Secretary, Lord Swinton, for a Cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street, at which he reported on the newspaper strike. —Reuter photo.

FAURE AND PINAY RE-ELECTED Local Departments

Paris, Apr. 17. Premier Edgar Faure and Foreign Minister Antoine Pinay were re-elected as general councillors in their respective constituencies in the local elections, which took place throughout France today.

These elections are for half the seats in the general assemblies, the local administrative parliaments in each of the metropolitan departments.

Each canton elects one representative to these assemblies though the cantons vary in size.

ABSOLUTE MAJORITY. An absolute majority is needed to be elected today. Failing this, a second ballot at which a relative majority is sufficient takes place next Sunday.

Abstentions in these local elections were heavy but did not exceed the 40 to 50 per cent recorded in the 1949 and 1952 elections. Nevertheless, in the coal-mining north, where the local population is usually more politically-minded than elsewhere, abstentions were somewhat greater than before.

The outstanding result so far was the very poor showing of the "Poujadist" candidate who posed M. Faure. Despite the personal appearance of M. Pierre Poujade, leader of the shopkeepers anti-tax movement, to back M. Faure as he came to vote at the town hall of Port Lesney, eastern France, of which M. Faure is mayor, the Poujadist, M. Jean Taffin, received less than a quarter of the Premier's votes.

TORRENTIAL RAINS IN JAPAN: 100 LIVES LOST

Tokyo, Apr. 17. THE heaviest rains in 66 years today claimed a reported 100 lives in Japan's southernmost island of Kyushu as rescue teams worked feverishly in the midst of stark devastation.

Near Sasebo hope was abandoned for the safety of more than 70 persons buried under tons of debris and dirt when a huge slag heap thundered down upon their small mining community on Saturday afternoon.

POP

MA - ALL MY MONEY'S GONE

GO ON!

I WAS HELD UP BY TWO MEN COMING HOME.

ALL THE WAY - BY THE SOUND OF THINGS.

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Elections Should Be Postponed

Says Gaitskell

WOOLTON REJECTS STAND OVER PAPER STRIKE



LORD WOOLTON

London, Apr. 17. The Former Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Hugh Gaitskell, demanded today that Sir Anthony Eden consider postponing the May 28 National Elections unless Britain's newspaper strike is settled within two weeks.

The prominent Labour Party member and former Cabinet Minister said he felt there "might be a case" to hold up even the dissolution of Parliament on May 6 unless the wage walkout that has stilled the presses printing London's big national papers for three weeks ends before the beginning of May.

The Conservative Party chairman, Lord Woolton, rejected Mr Gaitskell's stand.

ELECTION FEVER

Both men were speaking in exclusive interviews with the United Press as election fever flashed through Britain and candidates girded for the clash.

Mr Gaitskell spoke with the United Press in the garden of his home in the Hampstead district of London. Lord Woolton granted the interview in the grounds of his country home at Walsingham.

"If the newspaper strike continues into May it will be very serious," said Mr Gaitskell.

"If by the beginning of May there are no papers and no sign that publication will be resumed, the government should definitely consider whether it can hold the elections without newspapers to keep the country informed. There might be a case for not proceeding with the dissolution of Parliament on May 6 as scheduled."

He said "it will even be most unusual" for the Conservatives to present their 1955-56 Budget to Parliament on Tuesday in the news blackout.

Lord Woolton said Sir Anthony's Conservatives were determined to go ahead whether the marathon strike, stalling papers with a combined circulation of 50,000,000, is settled or not.

"Our intention is to go ahead," said Lord Woolton.

WINSTON'S CHOOSING

"You cannot let a small group of men hold up this country's constitutional processes, but I hope the strike will be over by then."

Lord Woolton said he did not believe Sir Winston Churchill's retirement would cost the Party votes. The Conservative leaders

comprise, he said, men of Sir Winston's choosing.

Mr Gaitskell said he did not know whether the Conservative vote would be cut by Sir Winston's retirement.

"People vote for a Party here in England," he said. "That doesn't mean that its leaders are not important. So far neither the Conservative Party nor the public has had a chance to judge Sir Anthony in office as Prime Minister."

Lord Woolton disclosed that Sir Anthony's dramatic decision, just ten days after taking over from Sir Winston Churchill, to seek a fresh mandate from the British electorate was taken at a 10 Downing Street meeting on Friday afternoon—just hours before the announcement over the British Broadcasting Corporation.

He said a small group of senior Cabinet Ministers attended the meeting with Sir Anthony and the election decision was unanimous.

Lord Woolton said the election was called immediately "to end uncertainty at home and abroad, which is bad for international affairs and commercial affairs."

"ECONOMIC PINCH"

Mr Gaitskell, however, sounded the Labour Party election claim that the Conservatives' plan to hold the election was an immediate vote because they feared an economic pinch was imminent.

"It is the growing trade deficit which is responsible," said Mr Gaitskell.

"It was far larger in the first three months of this year than the heavy deficit in the last six months of 1954. In March the trade gap was almost £100,000,000. The recent boom in the bank rate is not going to have the necessary effect on imports unless it is used with a credit policy which will lead to unemployment and reduced production."

Mr Gaitskell said Lord Woolton's claim that Sir Anthony sought the election to end uncertainty after the change in government was "absurd."

Lord Woolton rejected Socialist charges that an impending slump forced the election.

"Why should we fear the future," he asked. "We have full employment, a higher standard of living than for many years, a higher standard of spending and saving, and we have peace. What else can the electorate ask from the government."

"Lord Woolton declined to prophesy the elections' outcome but predicted the Conservatives would win."

Mr Gaitskell said: "It will be a close election and a good deal will turn on organisation of the campaign and possibly the emergence of some unforeseen issue during the campaign."

DON'T WANT COMMUNISTS

Mr Gaitskell turned down flat the call by the Daily Worker for Communist support of Labour Party candidates where no Communists are running.

"We do not want Communist support," he said. — United Press.



The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh (both of them carrying posies), leaving Southwark Cathedral after attending the Maundy Service, when Her Majesty, according to ancient custom, distributed the annual Maundy Money to the aged.—Central Press Photo.

Queen attends Maundy service

CIVIL SERVANTS CALL STRIKE

Tunis, Apr. 17. French civil servants in Tunisia, members of the General Workers Union of Tunisia, are determined to pursue their action next Tuesday, M. Jean Giovanni, President of the Union, said.

M. Giovanni left here for Paris today on summons by Premier M. Edgar Faure to discuss the Union's decision to stage a strike on Tuesday in support of claims for greater security in their jobs and improved conditions.—France-Press.

Unneeded Supplies

US GOVERNMENT WASTES MILLIONS

Washington, Apr. 17. A commission headed by ex-President Herber Hoover reported today that the Government was wasting thousands of millions of dollars building up "mountainous supplies" of unneeded goods and then selling them at a fraction of their cost.

Some of these goods were finding their way into Communist hands through "uncontrollable loopholes," the twelve member bipartisan commission said.

In a 96 page report published tonight the commission set out a long list of recommendations for more efficient handling of Government supplies now valued at \$155,000 million and scattered throughout the world.

PREVENTION

The report said the prevention of excessive surplus by proper inventory controls could eliminate from \$10,000 to \$25,000 million dollars worth of supplies now in Government warehouses, the report said.

Confusion in selling the huge surplus supplies had become so acute, the report recalled, that the Air Force once offered sterling silver for sale as brass.

A spot check at Raritan, New Jersey, on ten items once revealed that the Army had an average of 32.6 years' supply on hand.

At Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, the Navy had enough gear drives to supply needs for 128 years at the current rate of issue.

The Army Signal Corps had an authorised stock level of 1,426,000 dry cell flashlight batteries—an eight and half years' supply—though the

batteries would have a short life span on the shelves.

The commission found little interchange of surplus goods among Government agencies. In fact it said an agency often paid commercial prices for an item which another agency was selling as surplus at a loss.

FOREIGN AID

The commission also urged much more extensive use of surplus supplies in the United States foreign aid programme.

It said taxpayers paid for new products to be sent abroad while some Government agencies already had a surplus of the same products on hand.—Reuter.

STEVENSON STILL IN DOUBT

Washington, Apr. 17. Mr Adlai Stevenson, head of the Democratic Party, left today for a business trip to Africa with political circles still in doubt about his intentions for next year's presidential campaign.

Observers concluded that Mr Stevenson, unsuccessful candidate in 1952, intended to postpone for several months a decision on whether to seek his Party's nomination next year.

But he is due to make a series of speeches this summer beginning at the National Federation of Women's Clubs in Philadelphia on May 24.

STRONG INFLUENCE

Reaction to these speeches coupled with political developments in the interval may have a strong influence on whether Mr Stevenson now working as a lawyer, sought nomination, observers said.

At last night's Democratic Party banquet here in honour of Mr Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr Stevenson said that the Democratic Party must stand for three basic things: social progress, civil freedom and peace. Peace was "the most urgent business of the 20th century, the hydrogen age."—Reuter.

London, Apr. 17. The 83rd birthday anniversary of Lenin, the Soviet revolutionary, was celebrated in Moscow today by a Red Square march-past of over 2,000 Moscow pioneers (Russian style boy scouts and girl guides), the official Soviet news agency, Tass, reports.—China Mail Special.

Delegate Insulted At Bandung

REPORTER'S QUESTION

Bandung, Apr. 17.

The Asian-African conference was the proper body to decide on measures necessary to force colonial freedom, a spokesman for the North African delegation to the conference said today.

The spokesman told a Press conference that his delegation would welcome help from the Chinese People's Government in their struggle for independence.

SITUATION GRAVE

In a statement issued before the Press conference, the delegation said the situation in Morocco was extremely grave and dangerous and that no proposal for settlement had been made by France.

anti-colonialism by 'overstatement'!"

The spokesman replied in French: "You are insulting me."

In reply to a question: "What do you want the United States to do?" he replied: "Support us."—Reuter.

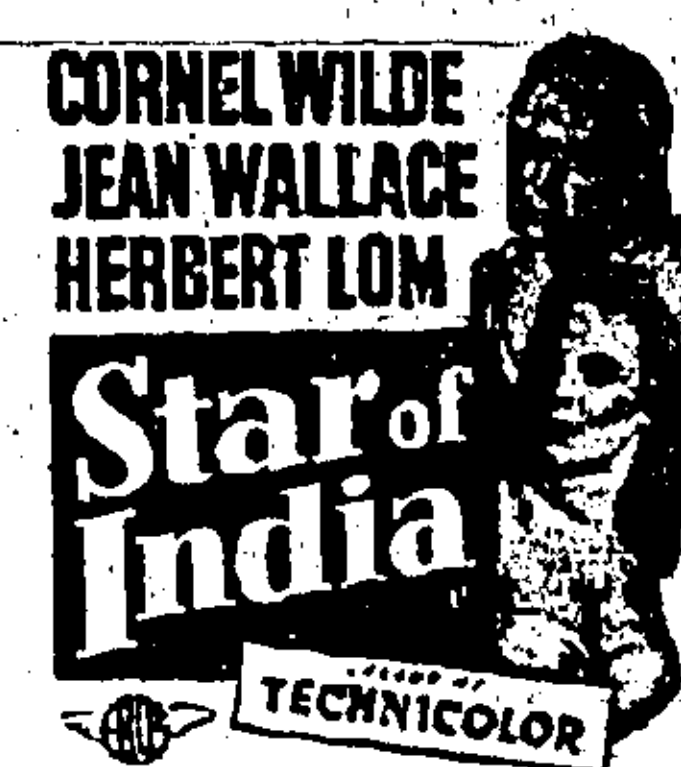
MAJESTIC

TO-DAY

At 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.

First showing in Kowloon!

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Directed by Arthur Lubin
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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

24 HOURS

of a Woman's Life

STEPHEN MURRAY

THE LINDEN PLAYERS

TO-NIGHT at 8 p.m.

WHILE THE SUN SHINES

at MISSIONS TO SEAMEN

Seats \$5 & \$3 At Moutries or at the door

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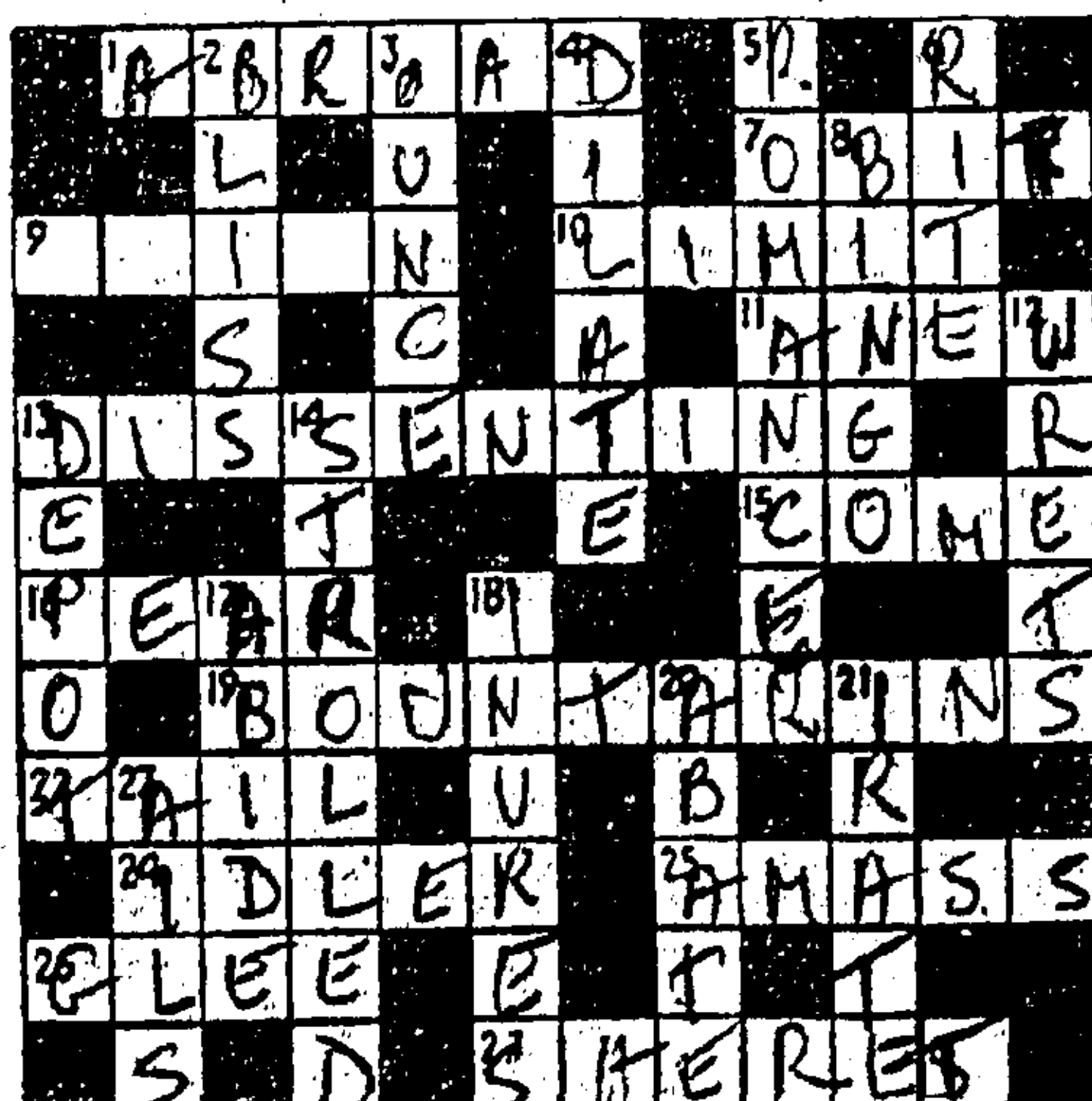
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS
- Overseas (8).
 - Norse god (4).
 - Rule (5).
 - Restrict (5).
 - At first (4).
 - Disagreeing (10).
 - Arrive (4).
 - Fruit (4).
 - Marches (10).
 - Appendage (4).
 - Loaf (6).
 - Accumulate (5).
 - Merriment (4).
 - Meat Pin (8).
- DOWN
- Eccstasy (5).
 - Unit of weight (5).
 - Swell (6).
 - Story-teller (8).
 - Ceremony (4).
 - Wild Australian dog (5).
 - Sharpens (5).
 - Headquarters of regiment (5).
 - Walked casually (8).
 - Tolerate (5).
 - Hardens (6).
 - Diminish (5).
 - Angry (5).
 - Is ill (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across: 1 Sherry, 4 Fault, 7 Untrue, 8 Minim, 10 Brad, 12 Related, 15 Noted, 16 Tore, 17 Eggs, 19 Valet, 20 Dresser, 21 Svir, 23 Lured, 24 Torrid, 25 Tense, 26 Candid, Down: 1 Stumbled, 2 Estrange, 3 Rout, 5 Azules, 6 Lotter, 9 Cedar, 11 Dossiers, 12 Revel, 13 Tattered, 14 Degraded, 18 Grouse, 22 Coma.

IMPORTANCE OF LIVING, BY LIN YU-TANG

Singapore, Apr. 17. Dr Lin Yu-tang, well-known author of "The Importance of Living" has left Singapore—\$72,241.50 the richer.

Dr Lin resigned his post as Chancellor-designate of the Nanyang University, together with his entire university staff.

In a joint statement, Dr Lin and the University Board of Trustees said, "The resignations end the deadlock between the Chancellor and the

Trustees which was brought about by the wide divergence of their views."

Dr Lin and all the faculty members had been engaged abroad to teach in the university which was to be set up here to conserve Chinese culture among the 10,000,000 Chinese in Southeast Asia.

Disputes soon arose between the teaching staff and the Board on the scope and the standards of the proposed university. Singapore million-

aire Mr Tan Lark Sye, the chief sponsor of the Nanyang University scheme, who volunteered to donate \$55,000,000 to the project, has now paid out \$81,000,000 already, in salaries and the final pay-off, although the university never got beyond the blue-print stage.

Dr Lin will go to Nise with his family, and later to Paris. The other professors will return to their old homes in America and Europe.—France-Press.

DID IT HAPPEN?

● SECOND in the series of stories by famous authors that will keep you guessing

YOU wouldn't expect to get your first flight in a helicopter in the middle of Labrador or to be peering out of it, searching for a crashed aircraft. Yet that was what happened to me in the autumn of 1953 when I was living in the construction camps of the now-completed iron-ore railway.

It was a Beaver floatplane that had crashed and it was rather an odd story. The pilot, a man called Jeff, whom I had met down at Seven Islands, had been sent up to an isolated lakeside camp to bring out a geologist who was "bushed."

Bad weather had delayed him overnight and he had left first thing that morning. Shortly after nine he had come on the air with the announcement that he was making a forced landing on a small lake some 10 miles southeast of Menihik Dam; he had been bucking head winds all the way and had run out of gas.

Almost immediately afterwards, according to the radio operator at the Mile 290 airstrip, he had shouted something about "the door" and "he's trying to jump out," and then, loud and clear, "They're fighting. I can't hold her." After that there had been silence.

I was billeted at Mile 290 with the pilot of the helicopter, and in Mike's view there was no doubt about the cause of the crash. The word "bushed" is used in the North to describe a man who has been driven nuts by the loneliness of the life. Some get religion, others just go in a terror nearly all suffer from some degree of persecution mania. "They're kind of tricky—liable to be dangerous if thwarted," Mike said. And then he added, "They didn't let the damned geologist jump out of the plane if he wanted to." Jeff was a friend of his.

We got away

The weather was bad all morning and even the airlift planes that kept the forward camps supplied were grounded. But we got away about three in the afternoon and, as we sidled north across the wind gusts, Labrador unrolled before me like a map come to life—the sombre black of stunted jack-pine and the endless, endless lakes.

I had come up to Mile 290 by speeder and truck and deep—a freezing, jolting, laborious journey. Now the miles slipped effortlessly by, as though I were seated in some magical armchair. We followed the yellow slash of the newly constructed grade until it became intermittent, with machines no bigger than toys burrowing into virgin

FORCED LANDING

by
Hammond Innes



A story set in Canada comes naturally from his pen—he knows the country well. But after travelling the world collecting background material for his adventure books, he knows most countries well.

He endured the rigours of a Norwegian whaling camp; then he wrote *The Blue Ice*. A visit to Alberto's Altiplano was followed by *Campbell's Kingdom*.

When Innes takes a holiday from travelling he goes yachting. Between journeys he writes his books at his home in Suffolk, where he lives with his wife. He is 41.

soil, and where it ceased altogether and there was only a thin cut marking the proposed line of the railway. We swung east and began our search.

It was all lakes and muskeg; gloomy, desolate country with one stretch of water much the same as another and only luck to guide us. We had been searching for about half an hour when a Dakota came out of the north and crossed ahead and slightly above us, blinking its landing lights. It banked steeply, circling round us, and headed northwards again.

Found!

"I believe he's found them," Mike yelled to me above the din of the engine.

Ten minutes later we came up with the Dakota circling low down over a lake, and below I saw the silver cross of a small aircraft spreadeagled in the muskeg at the water's edge. Its floats had hit the muskeg, scoring a double track through it for 20 yards or so, and had then snapped off, pitching the little airplane forward on to its nose, burrowing it deep into the swamp before it had settled back to lie flat with wings outstretched.

"That's Jeff's airplane all right," Mike shouted to me as he dived the helicopter like a lift towards the lake. "And that's Jeff." A figure was standing on the fuselage. "Can't land in the muskeg. . . Have to

hover. . . Ask him if there are any casualties."

I got my door open and a freezing wind from the rotor blades invaded the heated cockpit. The pilot was balanced unsteadily on the fuselage, his face deathly white. There was blood on his left sleeve and his arm hung awkwardly. "Anybody else hurt?" I called down to him.

"Yes . . . Somers . . . badly cut."

"What about the third man?" "Andre Bernis? Oh, he's okay."

I reported the position to Mike. "So it's Somers, is it?" He shook his head. "Pity! Fine geologist." He was frowning. "Well, I suppose if he's injured I'll have to take him. He obviously didn't like it after what had happened to the Beaver."

The helicopter could only take two passengers. Mike agreed that I should get out and he'd pick me up later. "I'll be back inside of an hour," he said as he inched the machine down till the skids touched at the root of the fuselage's port wing. "Watch the rotor!" he shouted as I jumped.

Somehow the pilot and I got Somers out of the cockpit and into the helicopter, the wind of the rotor tearing at us and the fabric of the crashed airplane juddering under our feet. Jeopardizing us in a frightful state half delirious, his face cut to ribbons. "Hurry up, Jeff," Mike shouted.

But the pilot hesitated. "Don't like leaving you here alone," he said to me thickly. "Guest of the Company. . . If anything happened. . ."

"I'll be all right," I yelled and pushed him into the helicopter. He was on the verge of collapse. "Back for you soon," Mike called out.

The pilot leaned down towards me. "Andre Bernis . . ." he shouted. "Be careful not to

be trying to tell me. But the lights still worked and they showed me that he was breathing quite regularly. I asked him about Somers, about what had happened. For a while he didn't answer, and then he suddenly sat up and poured out a torrent of French at me.

I couldn't understand a word he said so I settled myself down in the pilot's seat to wait for Mike.

Very dark

After that it began to get very dark. The light scattering of rain had turned to sleet and it was beating against the fuselage with a sound like surf sucking at a shingle beach. The wind rose and whipped the lake to a froth, gusts tearing at the water. I knew the helicopter couldn't fly through that sort of weather but I went on hoping. An hour passed. . . two hours.

The last of the daylight was blanketed in snow, a dirty, driven curtain that turned the muskeg white and caked on the jackpine fringe of the lake.

I was there for the night, then—not a pleasant prospect, particularly with a French Canadian whom I couldn't talk to. The hours passed and he lay there at the back of the airplane in a wide-eyed staring silence that got on my nerves. He seemed dazed by the crash, lying in a sort of torpor. I wondered what he was doing on the airplane—a sort of *voyageur*, probably there to look after Somers. And a damned poor job he'd made of it.

There was a metallic rattle behind me and I turned. The Frenchman was standing up in the dim-lit cavern of the fuselage wrestling with the handle of the door, thrusting at his shoulder. "Keep still!" I shouted at him. I was afraid he would roll the bottom of the door under, fill the airplane with water.

But he took no notice, intent only on getting out of the plane. I struggled out of my borrowed sleeping-bag and started to pull him away from the door. And then it struck me—the man wanting to get out and me pulling him back from the door! A

At length I went to sleep and woke cold and stiff some hours later to a sense of movement and the sound of water. I peered out. It was moonlight and the lake had risen, covering the muskeg. The airplane rocked gently, almost afloat.

Afloat

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cold prickle of fear ran up my spine.

I tried to tell myself it wasn't possible and started to reason with him, speaking slowly, distinctly, trying to make him understand about the water round the plane, that he'd only drown or die of cold if he left the fuselage. He listened to me very carefully and then said in English, "But I must go." He said it mildly, but quite firmly. "I must go—or I shall be late."

"Late? Late for what?" I asked.

"For my broadcast, I am broadcasting my Message to the world tonight."

I knew...

I don't think I have ever been quite so scared by anything a man has said to me before. The words, spoken so quietly, told me I was shut up in that plane with a madman.

He had turned to the door again and the whole airplane rocked as he drove his shoulder against it. I tried to stop him, but he became violent then and flung me off, shouting that I was against him like the others had been, that everybody was against him—but that nothing would stop him. "Rien Rien de tout." The door burst open, water pouring into the fuselage, and he stood in the gap, his hair blowing in the icy wind, staring out at the water that surrounded the airplane. "Mon Dieu!" He let the door slam shut and looked at me accusingly. "This is not Montreal."

"No."

He became very excited then and kept on asking when we should arrive. It was all mixed up with volumes of French spoken very fast. I soothed him as best I could and in the end he seemed to become exhausted and quietened down.

An axe

I spent the rest of the night wide awake in a state of nervous tension, watching him from the pilot's seat. I remember the thing that worried me most was his head, the light glinted on its naked blade.

The helicopter arrived just as the sun rose, I told Bernis that it would take him to Montreal, and he climbed in, docile and seemingly quite normal. We landed at Menihik in the huddled street close by the end of the half-completed dam, and when Mike and I were alone, I said, "That was a hell of a night I had out there."

He nodded. "Sorry about that. The weather . . . couldn't help it." He didn't seem very concerned and began telling me about the injured man. The pilot had been flown off unconscious. And of Somers, he said, "It's queer how it takes time . . . wanted me to believe it was the Frenchman who was 'bush'."

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★

Saturday's story, "Dover Incident," actually happened to Nigel Balechin.

Now, did Hammond Innes make this story up—or did it really happen to him? Is it FACT or FICTION? See tomorrow.

DID IT REALLY HAPPEN?
No. 2: Forced Landing
YES NO

Who Rules Soviet Central Asia?

By WALTER KOLARZ

LOCAL parliamentary elections have recently been held in the non-Russian Soviet Republics. They did not arouse interest in the world at large, for they were the usual totalitarian plebiscite resulting in an almost unanimous vote for a single official list of Communists and "non-Party" candidates.

They did, however, produce some interesting material. They caused local newspapers to publish lists of candidates, and by studying these it is possible to discover who the important people in each republic are and to what nationality they belong. The result is a fascinating picture of the distribution of power among the ethnic groups of the Soviet Union.

Take the candidates for Tashkent, which is not only the capital of one of Russia's Muslim republics but by far the largest city in Soviet Central Asia. In Tsarist times Tashkent was the seat of the Governor-General of Turkestan. To-day, Turkestan has no Russian Governor-General and even the use of the word "Turkestan" is prohibited because it is said to smack of the colonial past. Under Soviet rule, the Uzbek, Kazakh, Kirghiz, Tadzhik and Turkmenian republics have taken the place of Turkestan.

But this is a constitutional fiction. Soviet Central Asia is still largely controlled from Tashkent, the headquarters of several big State-capitalistic enterprises which exploit the riches of the region. They employ vast numbers of people and have stretched out tentacles into every Central Asian republic.

One of these State enterprises is the huge Central Asian Coal Combine (Sredazugol). It operates regardless of internal boundaries in four Soviet republics, and administers as many as seven different coal trusts. Its chief is Andrei Dmitrievich Lebedev, a member of the Uzbek Communist Central Committee.

He has now been elected to the Supreme Soviet of Uzbekistan, where he will be only one of several influential Russians who occupy key positions in the economic life of Uzbekistan. These included the directors of the two largest factories in Tashkent, the Stalin Textile Combine and the Tashselmash, the biggest factory producing agricultural machinery in Soviet Central Asia.

Another key deputy to the Uzbek Parliament who was elected not in Tashkent itself but in one of the provinces, is Fyodor Pavlovich Leksashev, chief of the Central Asian Oil Combine (Sredazneft). He is in supreme charge not only of all existing oil wells in Central Asia, but also of all future oil prospecting.

In Their Grip

There are so many Russian and other European deputies in the new Uzbek Supreme Soviet that it is impossible to mention them all. Among them, they hold positions which enable them to keep the entire country in their grip. For instance, the plenipotentiary of the Ministry of Agricultural Procurements has a Ukrainian name. He collects all the cotton, rice and wheat from the hundreds of collective farms throughout the country. And those who fail to meet the supply quotas are dealt with by the office of the Public Prosecutor whose chief is again a European, this time with the Polish-sounding name, Yatskovsky.

If we take any other Central Asian Muslim Republic, the picture will differ little from that in Uzbekistan. We shall almost invariably find that the most vital State enterprises and the most influential positions are held by Europeans or people of European culture—Russians, Ukrainians, Jews, Armenians, Georgians and others.

For instance, in Turkmenistan, Europeans all hold key positions in the newly-elected Turkmenian Supreme Soviet, administer the oil trust Turkmenneft, the railway line which crosses the Turkmenian desert, the flotilla on the Amu Darya river, and the State trust in charge of irrigation work. The head of the Turkmenian State plan, mining commission is Armenian and the Ministers of Finance, Local Industry and Water Economy are Russian.

Overwhelming

One must not imagine that European influence is strong only on the national level and that Central Asians are allowed to exercise control at least on the provincial and district scale. There are European Party and State officials even in areas where there are no European settlers.

One of the sparsely populated and almost inaccessible constituencies in the Pamir mountains, the "root of the world," as it is often called, has just sent a Russian Party Secretary as its representative to the Supreme Soviet of Tadzhikistan.

And in areas where there are European settlers their influence in all branches of local administration is absolutely overwhelming. The Province of Fuzhou, which covers the area around the capital of Kirghizia, is a particularly good example. In February 1955, the Fuzhou Province elected its new provincial Soviet. This consists of 61 Europeans as against 52 natives. The people who really run the Fuzhou Province—the head of the local State Security Department, the head of the MVD, the provincial Public Prosecutor and the departmental chiefs in command of industry, transport, and agriculture, to mention only a few.

In Conflict

It may be argued in defence of European control that it is only a temporary chapter and that the Russians will go and that the Central Asians will take over. But there has been a similar situation in British West Africa and West Indian colonies where, in the past few years, more and more European officials have been replaced by local nominees.

But the situation in the British dependent territories, which are moving towards self-government, is not comparable with that of the Soviet territories in Central Asia. There is no doubt that under the Soviet regime a vast number of people have been trained for important key positions in all the Central Asian republics and that the native Muslim intelligentsia has developed both in quality and quantity.

But it is these local Central Asian political and intellectual leaders who again and again come into conflict with the Central Government, and are therefore periodically removed from their posts. The mass Greed (Victim), was the Uzbek Prime Minister, Usman Yusupov. He was dismissed in December, 1954, for alleged inefficiency, and did not even stand as a candidate for the elections to the Supreme Soviet.

As long as the ranks of the local qualified cadres continue to be depleted by purges (the Europeans will, of necessity, remain in control).

THE MANY SIDES OF JIM BAILEY

From Donald Wise

Johannesburg. MILLIONAIRE Jim Bailey went missing again the other day. One minute he was sprawled behind his butter-coloured desk in a pair of frightful old flannels and a short-sleeved shirt. His staff were waiting to worry him with their chores. Then he was gone.

Jim Bailey is a weird, Howard Hughes type. His moves are harder to predict than a jumping bean.

Conferences take place anywhere. He is never on time. He can rarely be found when wanted in a hurry.

His publications—two magazines, one tabloid the late, fabulous Sir Abe

weekly newspaper—are the voice of Africans in the land of Strydom the lion, where it is not always wise to speak. "I air their grievances for them," he says.

He hopes to win over the millions who believe that Communism is the answer to their problems of unemployment, poverty and disease.

That is one side of him only. He also farms sheep. He juggles large financial holdings. He breeds horses. He is busy being the son of

Bailey, the mining millionaire.

Such activities in a multi-racial, multi-prejudice land like South Africa need careful staff work. More often than not it is essential that his right hand operates quite secretly and independently of his left.

So far, like most things that this 38-year-old ex-RAF fighter pilot touches, his African voices are in the fettle.

His first magazine "Drum" appeared five years ago, beating for South Africa's 9,000,000 non-whites, of whom some 65,000 now buy it every month. Its 40 pages—in and society, sports and scandal—can be bought in Kenya on the West Coast and almost anywhere south of the Sahara.

It has not been an easy life more than once the tactical

white-man-boss government has threatened to trim Bailey's newspaper allocation—once, for example, because he printed a picture of a Negro shaking hands with a Negro.

"Drum's" reporters are probably the most beaten-up team in the world. They have been whipped by white farmers, whipped by white labour gangs, flogged by wine-growers who keep their workers permanently buzzed as part payment, locked up by police when they tried to expose the notorious third degree in South Africa's gaols.

He reappraised briefly at a party, curled round a glass of beer, an obvious bachelor target for every pretty girl in the room.

After that—silence.

This is Jim Bailey's usual way of life, so no one is worried. They just know he is being a horse-breeder or a sheep-farmer or a financier somewhere else for a little while.

Last week Jim sent airplanes wheeling over Johannesburg's skyline to shower down leaders urging the shanty towners to buy his latest tabloid, "Golden City Post." They did.

As he sat moodily behind his wide desk in an otherwise empty room, the first 20,000 copies disappeared quicker than worms in a town run.

The kick he was getting out of the first editions to roll off the presses was wearing off. He vanished.

He reappraised briefly at a party, curled round a glass of beer, an obvious bachelor target for every pretty girl in the room.

After that—silence.

This is Jim Bailey's usual way of life, so no one is worried. They just know he is being a horse-breeder or a sheep-farmer or a financier somewhere else for a little while.

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INTERNATIONAL CUP FINAL CHINA 4, ENGLAND 2

BRILLIANT HO CHEUNG-YAU
HEADER PUTS THE CUP ON
THE CHINA SIDEBORD

By I. M. MacTAVISH

This was a game of many facets and many phases. In snatches there was a whiff of the Roast Beef of Old England; in patches we were treated to the sort of soccer that showed all the delightful precision of the oriental footballer; but in between there were times when the standard of play was ordinary indeed.

In the end China took the trophy but the English boys took more than an equal share of the honours. Don't be misled however into believing that the losers were as good a team as the winners.

England was weakest where it was strongest, in attack, yet strangely enough there was a time when the result was very much in the balance, and the white-shirted Englishmen might very well have snatched the Cup virtually out of the already itching hands of China's skipper.

But, as has happened so many times recently, the British boys flattered to deceive, and for lack of a determined do-or-die effort they allowed the initiative to pass back to the Chinese team, and with that change came any chance they had of pulling the game out of the fire.

However, they got their greatest grace for making this a real game and playing with a confidence that belied the fact that only a week ago, most of them had been involved on the wrong end of a goal deluge against the same opposition.

Before the game the experts gave England little chance of escaping another heavy defeat and it stands to the credit of the players that by their efforts they gave the Caroline Hill crowd something worthwhile for their money.

Nevertheless, I was surprised to hear football folk attributing the closeness of the result to the fact that there was a preponderance of South China players in the winning side who had taken things easy because they still have a couple of important games to play in their league programme. Such comment is an insult to the players concerned, and also to their opponents who gave them a very good game indeed.

IMPORTANT CHANGES
England announced two important changes just before the kick-off. John Taylor, the Club keeper, made a welcome re-appearance in goal as Lewis was unfit, while Toth took over the inside-right berth from Moss who had been out on duty overnight.

Early play was interesting and a fast, hard tackling England defence, kept the frisky Chinese forwards on a tight rein. It was a cut-and-thrust affair and both teams had chances to get ahead but it was not until the 23rd minute that

typical Ho Cheung-yau effort put his side in the lead. With half-an-hour gone China's lead was increased in unusual circumstances. Mok Chun-wah took an inswinging corner kick and as Taylor jumped, a trifle casually I thought, the ball curled on to the bar, came down, hit the goalkeeper on the body and dropped into the net.

This was a stroke of bad luck for an England side that had been giving as good as it set and it says a lot for the players that they did not allow the goal to upset them unduly.

With the second half underway for 15 minutes one got the impression that the Chinese boys had successfully suppressed the strong post-interval challenge of their opponents, but a typical snap goal by Morris shook them considerably.

Walmesley, coming in from the wing, hit the ball hard and low into the goalmouth. It looked as though the winger had tried a shot, but Morris, racing in, hit it first time into the net.

I thought he was in an off-side position when he moved to the ball but the linesman and the referee seemed in no doubt that everything was in order and the game was alive, once again.

Pat Gardner had a great chance to equalise a few minutes later. Running through unmarked he shied away from a desperate diving tackle by Wai Fat-kim and the ball went behind for a corner kick.

VITAL GOAL
The England defence which had been grand in the first half now began to make bad errors of distribution and one cast a vital goal.

Hayes, who had more or less played Ho Yung-fun out of the game in the first half, started the rot with a thoughtless clearance right to the foot of Chan Fui-hung and the Kitchener wing-half with the help of another half past by Walters got the ball into the middle, where, out of a defensive muddle, Yiu Cheuk-yin trundled it into the net.

England must have regretted the errors which led to these goals but before the players had

time to bemoan their fate Gardner prodded the ball home at the other end to restore the deficit to a single goal.

At this stage things looked a little bleak for China as "Lau Yee" was injured when the goal was scored and had to be taken to the sidelines for attention to his knee.

England now piled on the pressure in a desperate rather than in a directed sort of a way, but Lau Yee came back just in time to see his side increase the lead, and once again it was largely due to loose defensive play and poor covering in the English rear.

A rather simple corner was conceded and when the ball came across to the six-yards line the defenders stood rooted to the spot as Ho Cheung-yau got his head to it and sent it like a bullet into the net.

From a scorer's point of view it was a thrilling goal, but for the defenders it was the sort that usually demands a post-mortem.

The China defence was frequently beaten and neither Hau Yung-sang nor Lau Yee masters of the close tackle relished fast swinging attacks. Chan Fui-hung was tireless and got through a tremendous amount of work.

In contrast, Tong Sheung expended a fraction of the energy but accomplished a lot more. Ko Po-keung looked a trifle stale. There is little to choose between these five players. Three are already in the semi-final—Yong Kuen-cheong, George Ma and Wong Wai-hung—while S. K. Wong and R. A. Remedios will vie for the right to join the semi-finalists tonight at the CCC.

Taylor had a most uncomfortable afternoon in England's goal and never really showed the confidence we have come to expect from him. Nash, at right back, was the outstanding player in his side and by thoughtful tactics and scrupulously fair tackling he kept Mok Chun-wah as quiet as he has been in a long time.

MISDIRECTED PASSES
Hayes had a brilliant first half but his old failing of misdirected passes re-asserted itself after the interval. Hughes, Crompton and Walters made up a strong middle line and the policeman fitted in well with Nash.

England's real troubles were up front. Gardner never mixed it enough to worry Lau Yee into major errors and the missed might have changed the whole game. Toth did well at inside right but both he and Gardner tended to stop the attack.

Morris as usual grafted hard without either support or luck. Murray did many clever things but faded out of the game at vital stages in both halves while the England side, the way of so many wingers who have tried to beat Flash Harry on the outside.

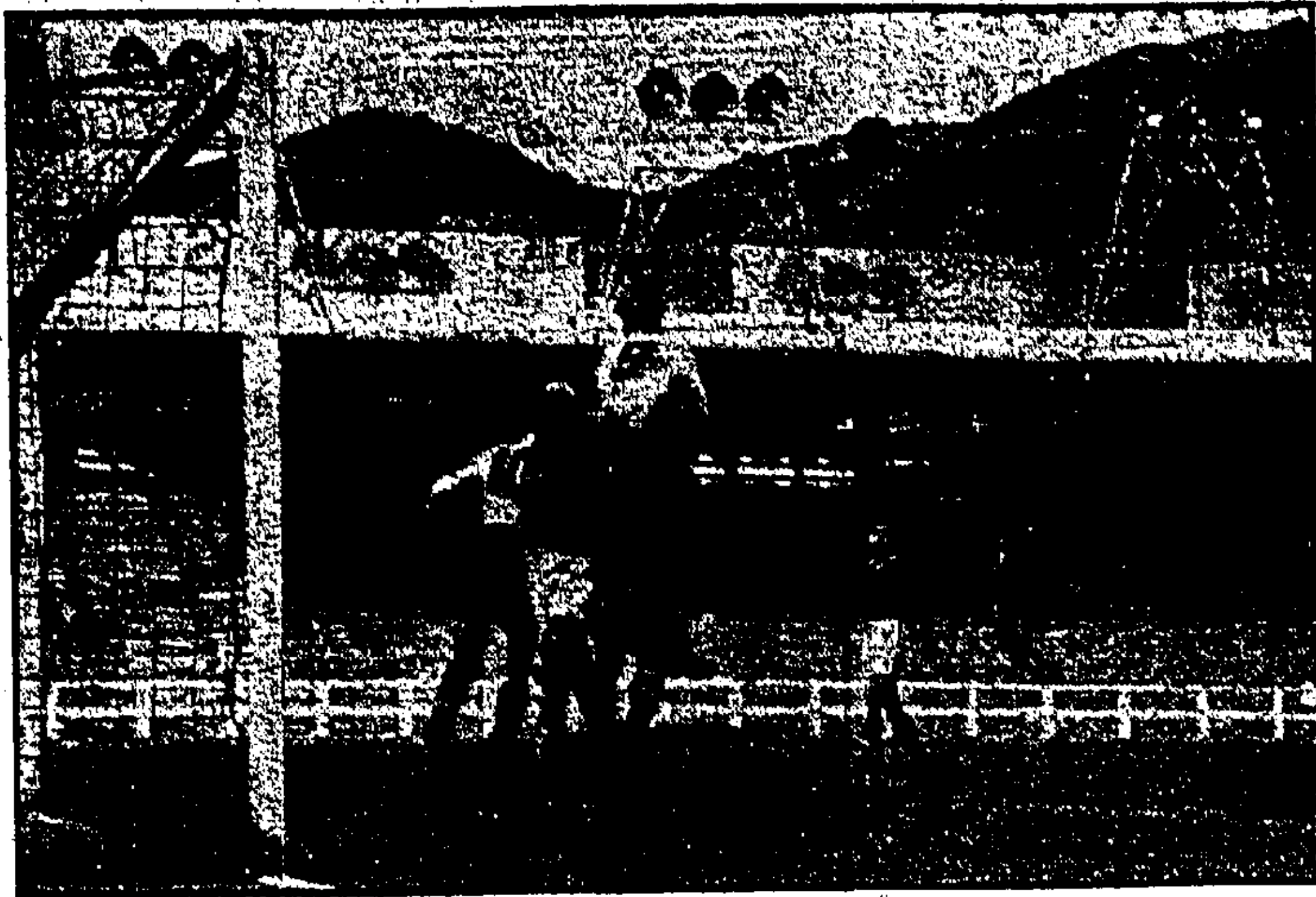
VERDICT
A much closer and certainly a better game than many people expected and it would not have taken a lot to have changed Mrs J. A. Dawson's task of presenting the trophy to Ho Yung-fun to one of making the presentation to Pat Gardner, but the better team won.

Referee Cabot struck a new note. In the first half he wore black and white ringed stockings but after the interval sported bright green hose that did not clash with the ringed stockings of the England side.

Referees have recently commented on press criticism. On this occasion, a quartette of us took a particular interest in the off-side decisions and when we compared notes later we found that the general opinion was that four decisions were given against attackers who were outside when the ball was last played although clear of the opposition when it actually came to them, and all four decisions—three against China one against England spoiled good scoring chances from well conceived moves!

TEAMS
CHINA: Wai Fat-kim, Hau Yung-sang, Lau Yee, Chan Fui-hung, Ko Po-keung, Tong Sheung, Ho Yung-fun, Ho Cheung-yau, Lee Yui-tak, Yiu Cheuk-yin, Mok Chun-wah.
ENGLAND: Taylor, Nash, Hayes, Hughes, Crompton, Walters, Gardner, Toth, Morris, Murray Walmesley.

CUSTODIAN WAS TOO QUICK



England's Morris (9) failed in this attempt to beat South China's Wai Fat-kim when Wai got his hand to the ball a fraction of a second earlier. Lau Yee on right eyes the ball ready for the clear. South China won 4-2 in this International soccer match played at Caroline Hill yesterday.—China Mail Photo.

Junior Players Promise
A Bright Future For
Hongkong Badminton

Says "TOUCHWOOD"

There is a bright future for badminton in Hongkong. This was the impression I gained after seeing the Colony's Junior players in the Hongkong Badminton Association's Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles Championships now in their eighth day.

The Junior players that we have at the moment may lack stars of the class of Ramon Young, Dr Low Keat-soo, Bill Funk, Junior Pomeroy, Patrick Wong and P. V. Yap, but there is sufficient material to build up a strong side for future international competition.

Only five competitors are still running for honours in the Men's Singles. Eleven have been eliminated. The five survivors are: S. K. Wong, R. A. Remedios, Yong Kuen-cheong, George Ma and Wong Wai-hung.

There is little to choose between these five players. Three are already in the semi-final—Yong Kuen-cheong, George Ma and Wong Wai-hung—while S. K. Wong and R. A. Remedios will vie for the right to join the semi-finalists tonight at the CCC.

Judging from recent displays in the quarter-final, the eventual finalists should be S. K. Wong and Wong Wai-hung. However, Remedios and George Ma are both capable of springing an upset.

The Remedios and S. K. Wong encounter tonight promises to be a thriller from start to finish. The odds are heavily against Remedios and he will have to be in top form and absolutely fit if he is to spring a surprise on S. K. Wong.

SURPRISE NO. 2?
There is every likelihood that George Ma will register surprise No. 2 in the Men's Junior Singles when he meets the Schoolboy Champion, Wong Wai-hung in the semi-finals. Last week, at the Tai Koo Club George Ma registered the first upset in the tournament when he beat fourth-seeded Bernard Brown after three gruelling sets, 7-15, 15-4, 15-7.

Possessing excellent height, reach and build, George Ma has an array of good strokes. With a little more determination to win and a little less inclination to be fanciful in his stroke play, Ma could be the master of Wai-hung when they meet in the semi-final.

In the Women's Singles, Diana Yung's impressive straight sets victory over Ginger Ho last week must certainly place her as the hot favourite to win the title this year. Diana, a mere slip of a girl, will be a force to reckon with with more competitive badminton.

Diana will meet the winner of the S. K. Ho and Mary Wong semi-final tie scheduled for tonight at Craigiepower. In all probability it will be a Mary Wong-Diana Yung final in the Women's Junior Singles and I predict a clear-cut victory for Diana Yung.

In case the Hongkong Badminton Committee have not considered it, I commend to their attention the setting up of

a panel of coaches for training the Colony's most promising junior players.

Here is something that the Hongkong BA could take in hand. Through the various affiliated clubs they could set up a coaching scheme to cover schools in the Colony, making use of veteran Champions as coaches for the boys and girls.

LOOK TO YOUTH
In sports, it is to the younger generation that we must look. The young schoolboys of today are the champions of tomorrow—and nothing is more certain that this will be true if they are taken in hand and given the necessary coaching to play on the right lines.

We have veteran players here like Robert Tay, Dr Low Keat-soo and Patrick Wong who could make ideal coaches. Robert Tay at the moment is doing a good job giving hints on the "know-how" to the youngsters whenever he is around the court, but there should be more coaches on whom the Hongkong BA could call for training schoolboys and girls and young club players.

Other veterans and Champions of the past should be invited to join the panel of coaches and make their services available in the move to raise the standard of badminton in the Colony.

These veterans have an unrivalled knowledge and experience of the game. No others are better qualified for the task of coaching the young.

Talking of the improvement of the standard of the game in Hongkong, it strikes me that the Hongkong Badminton Association is still without a proper hall for the exclusive use of badminton. Until and unless we have a hall, I am afraid this will retard the progress of our junior and senior standard.

Had we a first class badminton hall players could have full facilities for practice and competition instead of playing on borrowed courts that are much too low for good badminton.

Of course the HKBA should be thankful to the respective clubs in the Colony for the use of the various halls for the Championships without which the local tournaments would have to be played outdoors.

There must be thousands of Hongkong sportsmen, and thousands of others who, though they have never wielded a racket and perhaps have never seen a game of badminton, would only be too willing to do

their bit if a move is made by the Hongkong Badminton Association to build a badminton stadium.

Right now, the Hongkong Soccer Stadium is nearing completion and one might ask why not a badminton arena too? An arena worthy of the name of Hongkong.

The work of getting the preliminary spadework done for a badminton stadium and of negotiating the maze of Government regulations regarding buildings, must fall on the Hongkong BA.

SENIOR TOURNEY
The Colony Men's Senior Badminton Championships commence tomorrow evening with two Singles and one Doubles matches at Club de Recreio. In addition to these, there will be one Junior Men's Singles and one Junior Mixed Doubles played on the same courts.

The following are the fixtures for today, tomorrow and Wednesday.

TODAY
At Craigiepower Cricket Club.
Junior Men's Singles
8 p.m. S. K. Wong v W. P. N. Ho and R. Remedios.
Junior Men's Doubles
9 p.m. C. Myatt and Francis Boey v A. Nates and R. Remedios.
10.30 p.m. G. Ma and Wong Wai-hung v C. Delgado and C. Salas.
Junior Ladies Singles
8.30 p.m. Miss S. K. Ho v Miss M. Yung.
Junior Ladies Doubles
9.30 p.m. Miss C. Ho and Mrs. Moly Source v Miss M. Tang and Mrs. H. Foon.
10 p.m. Miss Y. Y. Chan and Miss D. Yung v Misses M. Wong, B. Marquis and A. Soares.
Official Umpires—Messrs Z. Teok, A. Nery and J. A. Soares.

TOMORROW
At Club de Recreio
Senior Men's Singles
8 p.m. Jimmy Koo v P. V. Yap.
9 p.m. Ko Wai-kuo v Dr K. S. Low.
Senior Men's Doubles
10 p.m. R. Young and C. Y. San v K. C. Wong and W. F. Foo.
Junior Men's Singles
9.30 p.m. S. K. Wong v R. A. Remedios.
Junior Mixed Doubles
8.30 p.m. G. Ma and Miss D. Yung v M. Kan and Miss M. Wong.
Official Umpires—Messrs Z. Teok, A. Nery, B. Soares, B. A. Xavier and M. A. Oliveira.

WEDNESDAY
At Indian Recreation Club
Senior Men's Singles
8 p.m. Junior Pomeroy v W/O J. Teoh and P. V. Yap.
9 p.m. Ebrahim v W/O Dr K. S. Low and Ko Wai-kuo.
Mixed Doubles
10.30 p.m. P. Wong and Miss Y. Y. Chan v Dr K. S. Low and Mrs. M. Scott.
Junior Men's Doubles
8.30 p.m. B. Brown and H. J. Xavier v Frank Yee and Hugo Ho.
10 p.m. P. C. Chau and S. Y. Wong v W/O G. Ma and W. F. Foo.
Official Umpires—Messrs Z. Teok, A. Nery, B. Soares and A. Nery.

Japan Creeps Closer
To Swaythling Cup
Semi-Final

Utrecht, Holland, Apr. 17.

Title holder Japan swept its way to two crushing five-zero victories today to bring it one step closer to qualification for the semi-finals of the Swaythling Cup for male teams in the 22nd World Table Tennis Championships.

But a decisive clash against Yugoslavia must take place tomorrow night since the Yugoslavs also won their two matches today to retain their undefeated record.

Japan and Yugoslavia were the only two countries in group three to have suffered no defeats. Japan must still play Scotland, whom it should beat easily, and Yugoslavia, while the Yugoslavs face Austria and Norway, two relatively easy prey, and Japan.

The Japanese inflicted humiliating defeats on Norway and Austria this morning and afternoon as the tourney entered its second day.

Yugoslavia passed the difficult South Vietnamese hurdle this afternoon by a score of five-two, and crushed Belgium five-one this morning.—United Press.

Group Two: Holland beat Egypt 3-1, France beat Czechoslovakia 3-1.
Group Three: England beat South States 3-0, England beat Italy 3-0, Wales beat USA 3-1, Austria beat Germany 3-1, Sweden beat Switzerland 3-0.
Group Four: England beat Germany 5-3.

Home Soccer
Standings

London, Apr. 18.
Football League standings after today's matches were as follows:

First Division	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chelsea	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Wolves	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Portsmouth	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Manchester City	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Sunderland	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Manchester Utd.	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Arsenal	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Burnley	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Everton	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Sheff. Wed.	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Charlton	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
West Bromwich	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Sheff. Utd.	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Blackpool	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Cardiff	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Leicester	19	10	11	8	63	46	30
Wendnesday	19	10	11	8	63	46	30

Second Division
Blackburn 22 10 13 13 78 49
Leeds United 22 10 13 13 78 49
Luton Town 22 10 13 13 78 49
Sheff. Wed. 22 10 13 13 78 49
Sheff. Utd. 22 10 13 13 78 49
Rotherham 22 10 13 13 78 49
West Ham 22 10 13 13 78 49
Birmingham City 22 10 13 13 78 49
Notts County 22 10 13 13 78 49
Swansea 22 10 13 13 78 49
Kidderminster 22 10 13 13 78 49
Leyton Orient 22 10 13 13 78 49
Burton 22 10 13 13 78 49
Plymouth 22 10 13 13 78 49
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TENNIS INTERNATIONAL

Drobny Out
Of Paris
Championships

Paris, Apr. 17.
Wimbledon 1954 tennis Champion Jaroslav Drobny is to be operated on for appendicitis tomorrow at Nice, it was learned here today.

The organisers of the Paris International Tennis Championships now being held on the Courts of the Roland Garros Stadium have been informed that Drobny will be unable to compete.

Art Larsen of the United States, who was also to have competed in these championships, is to be replaced by his compatriot, Herbert Flam.

Larsen was defeated today at Naples by Italy's Fausto Gardini in the semi-finals of the Men's Singles in the Italian International Tennis Championships.

Following these changes, the Paris organisers have announced the line up for the Men's Singles as:

Mervyn Rose (Australia), Herbert Flam (United States), Budge Patty (United States), Marcel Bernard (France), Paul Remy (France), Bernard Destreum (France), Robert Paillet (France), Robert Abdesselam (France).—France-Press.

JUST A MINOR DISTURBANCE
Harry Amos and Dick Eason, the last British referees to leave South America, hope to return to Uruguay. Amos arrived in England minus three teeth, knocked out by a spectator at one of the games he refereed.

But despite what they described as "minor disturbances", both agreed the Uruguayans play first class football, and their fans appreciate every move in the game.

Ramadhin And Valentine
Dropped For Third Test

Port of Spain, Apr. 17.
'Sonny' Ramadhin and Alf Valentine, West Indies outstanding spin bowlers, have been surprisingly dropped for the Third Test against Australia beginning at Georgetown on April 26.

On an unresponsive pitch in the Second Test, Valentine's figures were: 49-12-133-2 and Ramadhin's 32-8-90-2 in Australia's innings of 600 for nine declared.

Valentine has had trouble with the forefinger of his left hand, the skin wearing away near the nail every time he bowls. It is thought, therefore, the intention may be to rest him in readiness for the Fourth Test starting at Bridgetown on May 14.

Wicketkeeper C. McWatt is replaced by De Pelza of Barbados and Lennox Butler, fast bowler, is also omitted.

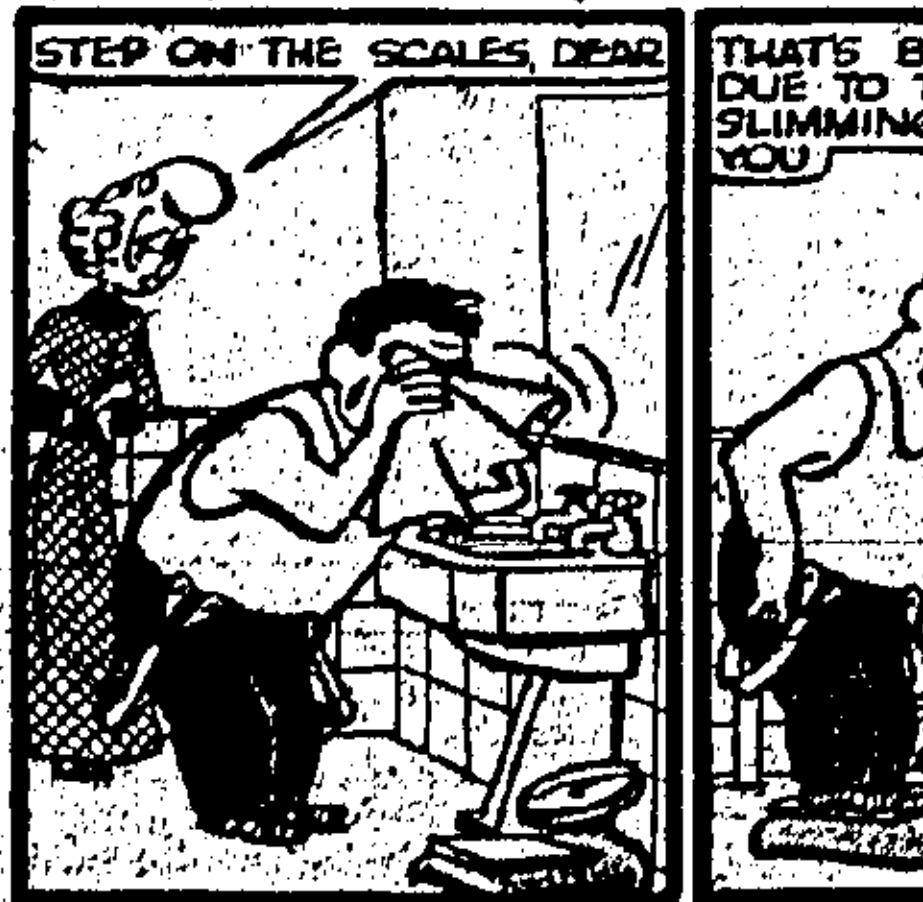
Frank Worrell, unfit for the last match, and Denis Atkinson, who led the team in the First Test, come into the side together.

BOXER DIES OF INJURIES
Trenton, Apr. 17.
After being in a coma for 18 days a 23-year-old American boxer died in hospital here today as the result of injuries received during his first professional fight on March 28 last.

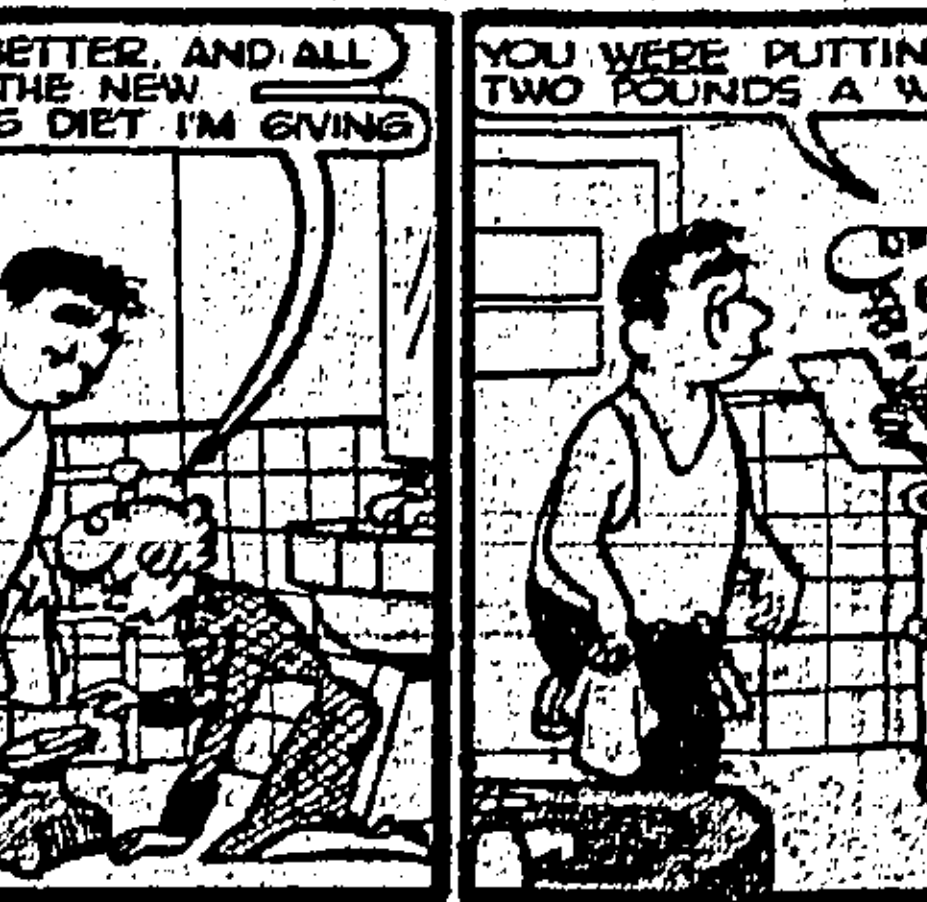
Bryan Thomson, former United States Amateur Middleweight Champion was taken to hospital after being knocked out in the second round of his fight against Jerry Luedke.

Two operations on the brain were performed. Before turning professional Thomson won 75 of his 115 amateur bouts.—France-Press.

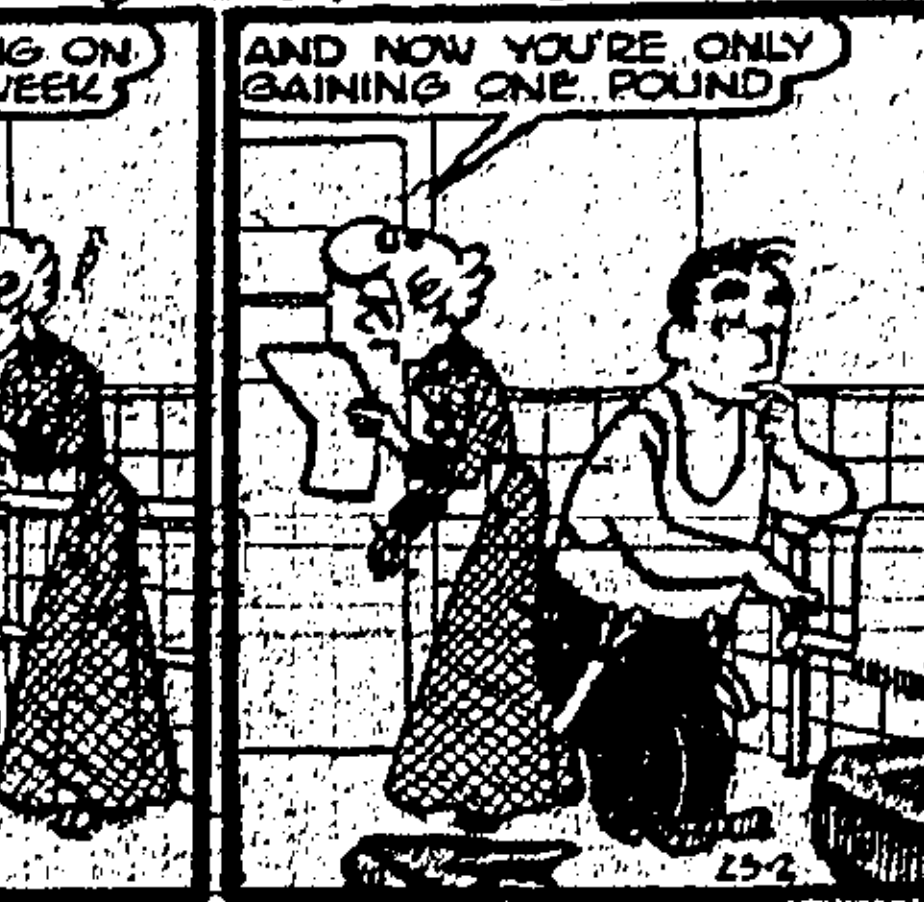
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MEMORIAL SERVICE

WONG—A special memorial service
for the late Mr. Wong Kwai, 72
years of age, will be held at
the Hong Kong and Kowloon
Mortuary Home, 100, Wyndham
Street, Hong Kong, on Tuesday,
April 19, 1955, from 9
a.m. to 12 noon.

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Arrived 17th April, 1955
Damaged cargo on this vessel will
be surveyed by Messrs. Godard &
Douglas at Hong Kong & Kowloon
Wharf, Godown 4, 4.00 a.m. on
Wednesday 20th April and Thursday,
21st April, 1955, and consignees are
requested to be present during survey.

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Hong Kong Birds

Herklots, G. A. C. 1953.
Hong Kong Birds. Pp.
xii+233. Pts. 1 & 2. In
colour, numerous black-
and-white drawings in
text. Hong Kong: South
China Morning Post,
Ltd. HK\$35.00.

a most welcome
handbook for ornitho-
logists resident or station-
ed in Hong Kong. All
the hitherto recorded
species are included;
plumages are clearly and
concisely described, and
a short account is given
of field characters, voice,
habits, status, etc. The
illustrations, except for
three plates of photographs,
are all by G. A. C. Hughes,
and include a series of
five plates of the heads
of 42 species and many
useful drawings in the
text. The writer of this
review would have
benefited greatly from
this book when stationed
in Hong Kong some
years ago. Even now,
on referring to it, some
40 unfamiliar species
on which notes were
made at the time have
almost all proved easily
identifiable. — D. W. S.

(Extract from "The Bird" official
organ of the British Ornithologists
Union, British Museum).

S. C. M. POST
HONG KONG KOWLOON

Fewer Refugees Going To W. Berlin 23 CAMPS HAVE BEEN CLOSED

Berlin, Apr. 17.

The stream of East Germans seeking refuge
in West Berlin has now dwindled to 200 a day, and
23 camps have been closed.

A reverse trend has begun, too, with dis-
appointed refugees returning home and
unemployed West Germans looking for prosperity
in East German state factories.

The peak period of flight to the West was in 1953,
before and after the revolt of June 17. In that year,
305,000 East Germans fled. About 80 per cent of them
queued up outside the West Berlin refugee centres and
the rest managed to cross the international border direct
into West Germany.

Last year, the total dropped to 184,000. Only every second
refugee came through West Berlin, thanks to the easing of
travel restrictions between East and West Germany, and particu-
larly the abolition of the inter-
national pass.

This easing prompted many
people to visit their relatives
on the other side of the border
for the first time for years.
Many East Germans found that
all was not as wonderful as
they had expected in West Ger-
many—which may have caused
many to change their minds
about leaving home, furniture,
and job behind for a life in the
West which could provide work
and homes for only a fraction
of the refugees.

UNTRUBLED

On the other hand, many
West Germans living in poor
circumstances found their
relatives in East Germany
untroubled by the much-
feared secret police as long
as they kept their mouths
shut about politics and had
no extravagant personal
ambitions.

Jobs were to be had for the
asking, they discovered, flats
were only half as dear as in
West Germany, and food was
relatively adequate, especially
for factory workers who bought
their provisions in the factories'
canteens and foodshops.

East German newspapers have
claimed that 100,000 people
crossed from West to East in
1954. If that is true, the mass
migration of Germans would
boil down to one West German
going East for every two East
Germans going West.

There are several flaws in
such arithmetic, however. East
German authorities agree that
most of those going East are
East German refugees returning
home because they were not
recognised as political refugees
in West Germany and had
therefore been given only shel-
ter and food but no job or
other rights there.

Thousands of these unfortu-
nate people have experienced
camp life in Berlin and West
Germany for many years, at
best crammed with two or three
families in one room, sleeping
in double-deck beds, and knowing
well in advance when there
would be no food on the menu
again.

Professor Theodor Oberlander,
the West German Refugee
Minister, in a radio interview
here, said last year 45,000 West
Germans had "officially" gone to
live in East Germany. This
figure, he reported, was
based on the fact that they were
leaving the country. Many of these
people whose families had been
separated for years, and now
intended to live together
again.

Many others may have left
without telling police.

Between 200 and 220 people
registering each month at the
West Berlin and West German
refugee centres, later were
homebound West Germans dis-
appointed by East Germany,
mostly farmers and small
tradesmen who had hoped for
better conditions there but did
not find them.

"The figures and the motives
are different," Professor Ober-
lander said, comparing the
Eastbound and the Westbound
streams.

Those going West, he said,
totalled nearly 2,000,000 since
World War II out of a popula-
tion of 17,000,000 in 1954.
No comparable total is known
for the people moving in the
opposite direction. But since
last November, the East Ger-
man Government has issued oc-
casional reports about West
German refugees coming to
"our Republic."

DRAFT DODGERS

One week in December, it
said, there were 2,000.
Another figure given was a
total of 87,135 from October
1953 to September 1954, in-
cluding 40,020 returned East
German refugees.

Sculptor Makes Giant Sea Nymph Statue



McDonald New AOC Pakistan

London, Apr. 17.
Air Vice-Marshal William
Baynes McDonald, will in May
become Commander-in-Chief of
the Royal Pakistan Air Force in
succession to Air Vice-Marshal
L. W. Cannon, it was officially
announced here today.

Air Vice-Marshal McDonald
who is 51, has been Director-
General of Manning at the Air
Ministry since September 1952,
before which he was Air Officer
commanding the Aeroplane
and Ammunition Experimental
Establishment at Boscombe
Downs, Wiltshire. He was
formerly Commandant of the
RAF Staff College, France-
Presse.

Assen Peikov, the well-
known Bulgarian sculptor who
lives in Rome, is creating a
giant 25-foot statue of a sea
nymph for the seaside resort
of Fiumicino, near Rome.
The sculptor said that
although Sophia Loren has
been to see him at work on
the head of the sea nymph it
does not represent her,
although it may look a little
like the beautiful film star.
When the statue is erected it
will be covered with mother-
of-pearl, and coral, from the
shores of Italy, and will
"shine like a lighthouse".
Assen Peikov is pictured at
work on the clay model of his
sea nymph in his Rome
studio.

BIG CLOCK HOSPITAL

London, Apr. 17.
A clock and watch hospital
founded here in 1948 is to move
soon to a five-storey factory
and become the biggest repair
shop of its kind in Britain.
Now 80, skilled craftsmen in
white overalls, working at
brightly lighted cream-coloured
benches, repair about 700 clocks
and watches a week. In the
new factory about 150 men will
be employed.

The factory was started in
1948 by a former Royal Air
Force man, Mr. J. J. Bright.
Clocks and watches from the
three armed services go to
the "hospital" for repair. The
clocks from the Metropolitan
Police are also looked after
at the repair shop, which
is said to be as up-to-date as
the best in Switzerland, and
the traditional home of anything that
ticks.—China Mail Special.

Heavy Casualties In Belgian Air Force GRAVE GOVT CONCERN

Brussels, Apr. 17.

The high rate of fatal flying accidents in the
Belgian Air Force is causing grave concern to
military authorities here.

New preventive measures are being studied.

In the last two years alone, 55 pilots have
been killed in air crashes in Belgium and abroad,
representing a year's intake of trainee pilots into
the Air Force.

The accidents, moreover, have
destroyed one eighth of Bel-
gium's aircraft in service, mainly
jets, and cost the country 800-
000,000 francs (£4,300,000 ster-
ling). The exact figure of air-
craft lost has not been an-
nounced as the strength of the
Air Force is a top secret.

PUBLIC OPINION

Public opinion has been
aroused by the number of
fatal accidents, especially
those caused by young
pilots "showing-off" over
their homes.

These, though, rare compared
with the total number of flying
hours put in by Air Force pilots,
have caused several accidents
recently, and the Defence Minis-
try has found it necessary to
issue a special warning.

It called upon all parents of
pilots to appeal to their sons
not to break discipline by per-
forming aerobatics over their
homes, and warned pilots that
they would be subject to severe
disciplinary action if they were
caught.

In fact, 12 pilots have been
struck off flying lists in the last
two years for incidents of this
type. This cost the country an-
other 24,000,000 francs (£170,000
sterling) in loss of pilots. The
number of offenders noted caught
is probably still higher.

Mr. Anton Spinoy, the Defence
Minister, recently called a meet-
ing of senior Air Force officers
to study the question. It was
then decided that the Air Force
would take measures to increase
the responsibilities of its senior
officers for their less experi-
enced juniors during flying
training.

ONE MEASURE

One concrete measure
which has already been
taken forbids pilots to fly
below 2,000 feet over Bel-
gium's main towns.

This step has followed pro-
tests by several town councils
of aircraft "buzzing" built-up
areas, and particularly fashion-
able sea-side resorts in the
summer.

The problem of air accidents
has become even more acute
now as in the next few months
the re-equipment of the Belgian
Air Force with supersonic jet
fighters is to begin.

The machines include the
British Hawker Hunter, which
is being built under licence in
Belgium, and the new American
Thunderbolt fighter, which
will be supplied by the United
States under its aid programme
to the member countries to the
North Atlantic Treaty Organisa-
tion.

Until now, the Air Force,
whose combative force is made
up only of fighters, has been
flying British Meteor jets and
American Thunderbolts.

Each fatal accident and loss
of aircraft costs about 12,000,000
francs (£85,000 sterling) at
present. The loss will be even
greater with the new jets.

A recent accident at Liege,
in which 13 people were killed,
has shown the need for close
surveillance of new pilots when
they join their first squadron.

A young Belgian Service
pilot was making his first land-
ing on a Liege airfield after
finishing his training in the
United States when his jet
fighter bounced off the runway
and crashed into the airfield's
administrative building. The
pilot was killed together with
12 other people.

TWO OTHER ATTEMPTS

It was later learned that
the pilot had already at-
tempted a landing, which he
had misjudged, and was
not controlling his aircraft
correctly. On the second, he
again failed to approach the
runway correctly.

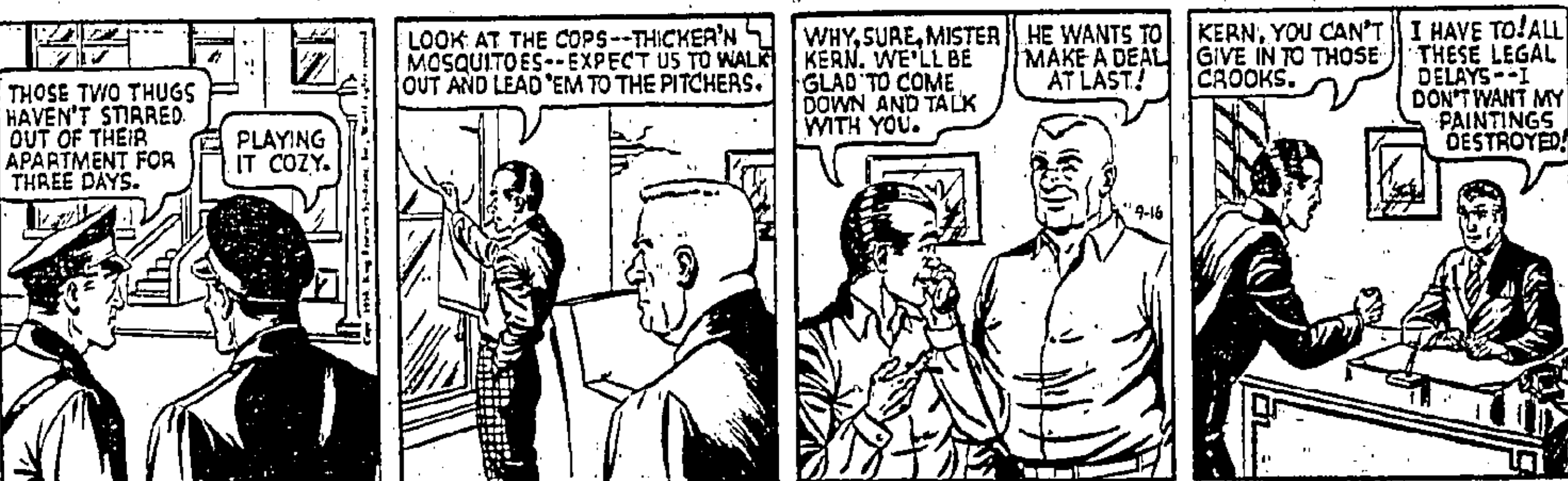
In the last two years, pilots'
errors have accounted for the
largest number of accidents. Of
the 345 major and minor acci-
dents since 1953, 217 have been
caused by piloting mistakes, 74
by mechanical failures, 42
through various reasons and 12
by cause unknown.

But the number of accidents
fell off considerably last year
by comparison with 1953. Ten
fewer pilots lost their lives in
19 fatal accidents.

The new measures to increase
control over young pilots, whose
numbers largely outweigh those
of older and more experienced
officers, are designed not only
to reduce the number of acci-
dents but also to raise the Air Force's
combat efficiency.—China Mail
Special.

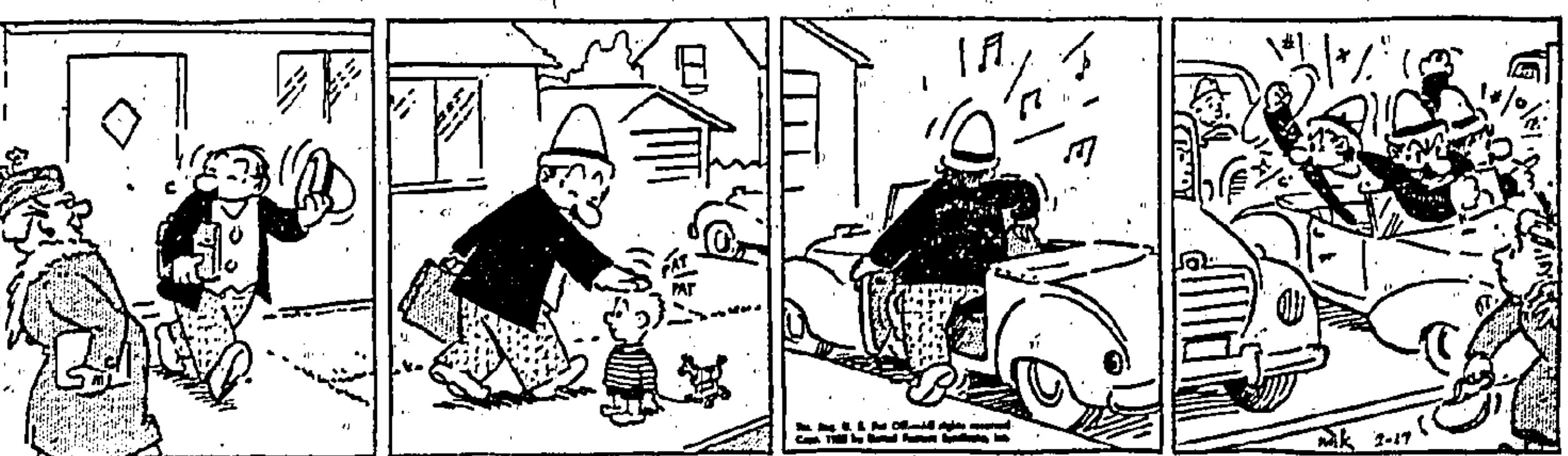
MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Les Falk and Phil Davis



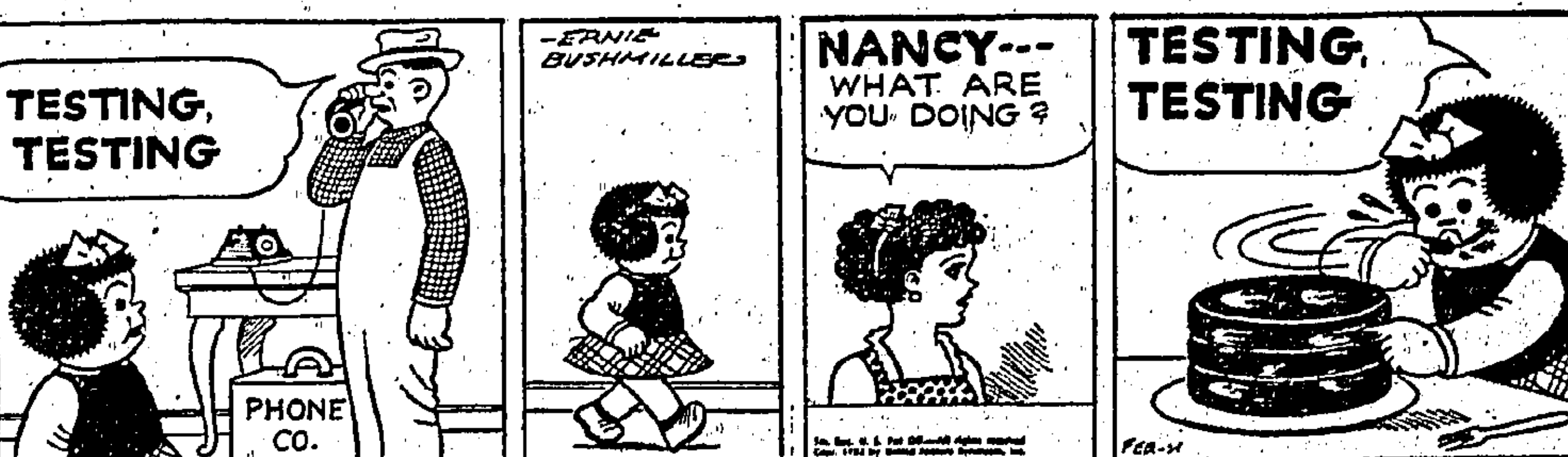
FERD'NAND

By Mik



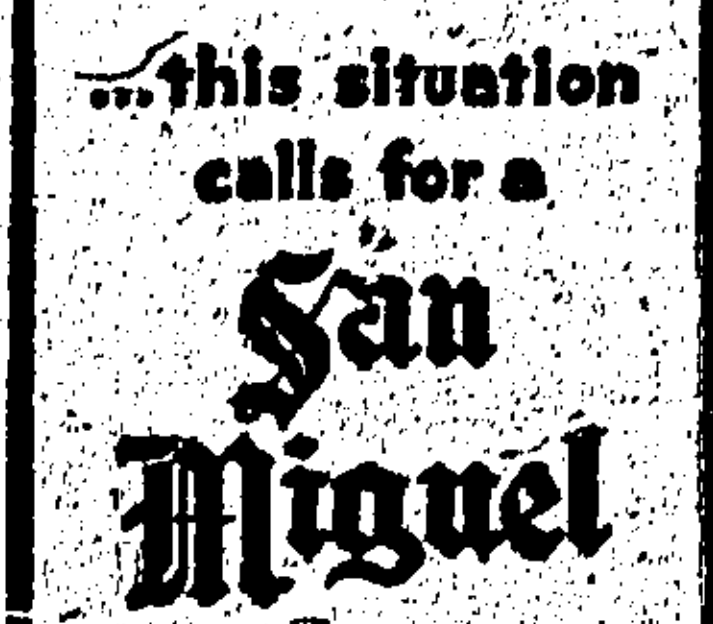
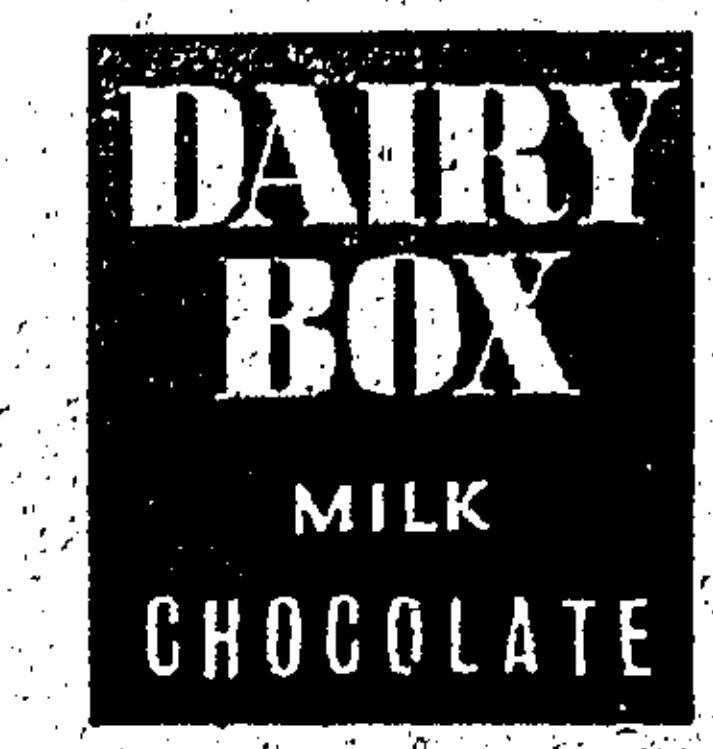
NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



Mail Notices

The latest times of posting
shown below are those for un-
registered correspondence posted
at G.P.O. Hong Kong. The latest
posting times elsewhere which,
in general, are earlier than the
G.P.O. times can be ascertained
by enquiry at the local office.
The latest posting times for
registered articles (see item 10)
shown below. Particulars regard-
ing parcel mails can be ascer-
tained by enquiry at any post office.

MONDAY, APRIL 18
By Air
Philippines, 3 p.m.
Thailand, India, Middle East,
Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6
p.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, U.S.A., 6
p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 2 p.m.
TUESDAY, APRIL 19
By Air
Japan, 8 a.m.
Thailand, India, Middle East,
Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 8
a.m.
Sado-China, Malaya, Indonesia, 9
a.m.
Indo-China, 11 a.m.
Philippines, 11 a.m.
Japan, Hawaii, Noon.
N. Borneo, Australia, New Zea-
land, 2 p.m.
Philippines, 6 p.m.
Korea, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 9 a.m.
China, People's Republic, 9:30 a.m.
Malaya, Burma, India, Noon.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Korea, 1 p.m.
Macao, 3 p.m.
Australia, New Zealand, 5 p.m.

PIPE-LINES FOR BASES IN SPAIN

Madrid, Apr. 17.
Spain is taking great interest in the preliminary preparations for laying an 800-kilometre (about 490 miles) long oil pipe-line from Cadiz up the centre of Spain to Saragossa.

Spaniards hope that although the line is being built for US military use, Spanish users too may eventually be able to use the installations. One report spoke of a parallel line being installed for Spanish use.

It is thought that the installation of this line to supply United States air bases to be constructed in Spain will cost around 600 million pesetas (£6,000,000) but until the final contracts are signed the exact sum will not be known.

The Spanish review *El Espanol* wrote: "It is possible that near the pipeline important new industrial centres may be established and that new roads and railways too may follow its path across Spain."

The Madrid newspaper *El Alcazar*, referring to the pipeline, wrote: "The Agreement with the United States came to remedy our lack of equipment and to place us in a position to increase our production. If it were not so, it would merely constitute an injection of dollars which would only mean a passing and fictitious prosperity."

FILL TANKS

The aim of the pipe-line is to keep the storage tanks filled at the air bases which the US is building, or will build, at Moron and El Copeno, near Seville; Torrejon, near Madrid; and two airfields near Saragossa. The main deposits will be at East Rota, across the bay from Cadiz. Ten-inch pipe will be laid from Rota to El Arahil, where a branch line will run to the Seville fields. Then there will be an eight-inch line to Alcala de Henares, near Madrid, and six inches the rest of the way to Saragossa.

Six pumping stations will lift the fuel from sea level at Cadiz to the 600-metre (1,951 feet) high Castilian plateau.

The piping material is to be supplied by the British firm of Stewart and Lloyd—China Mail Special.

US Alarmed Over Water Shortages

Washington, Apr. 17.
President Eisenhower's recent warning that water is rapidly becoming the country's most critical natural resource stresses the habitual shortages of fresh water in many parts of the United States.

Water, the lifeblood of all living things, is also the lifeblood of industry. The production of a ton of finished steel, for instance, requires 65,000 gallons of water.

Any country, as it develops, gulps down water in ever-increasing quantities. The current demand for public use, industry and irrigation in the United States totals an estimated 200,000,000 gallons a day. The Hercules task is to replenish water in arid zones or cities where demand is out-reaching supply is being approached in several ways: conservation measures such as anti-pollution and re-use of water; helping nature to increase supplies in arid areas; and conversion of fresh water from the sea. Some methods are old, others new and visionary.

PROMISING FIELDS
Economic conversion of sea water and reclamation of contaminated water offer two of the most promising fields for research. Several large distillation units are actually operating at oil refineries in remote, sun-baked spots. The largest of these, on the Persian Gulf, supplies 720,000 gallons a day to the Kuwait Oil Company.

Unlimited sweet water from the salty sea is an age-old dream. But present distillation systems are still too costly for general use, according to a recent survey. Known principles of "laundering sewage" may eventually provide industry and agriculture with usable water, and science is looking for an economical way to treat industrial wastes.

Hydrologists are studying other schemes, notably surface treatment of watershed lands to stimulate greater soak of rain and snow. Denuded land sheds water like a tin roof, causing floods and the loss of fertile topsoil. Re-afforestation, proper vegetative cover, contour ploughing and construction of small detention dams helps the earth to absorb rainfall—China Mail Special.

BRITAIN'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET REVIEW

By WILLIAM T. PLUNKETT

New York, Apr. 17.
Industrial shares on the stock exchange this week climbed to record highs and railroad issues pushed to new 25-year peaks.

Industrial shares advanced in each session this week. This demand helped other departments. Railroad equities finished the week at their best levels since Oct. 31, 1929.

A number of highly favourable corporate developments this week helped the market penetrate last month's highs. Favourable production figures, coupled with optimistic business forecasts for the nation, boosted the market considerably.

The market made its best showing on Friday with the industrials leading the way. Friday marked the eighth consecutive session that they have advanced. Railroads moved up in four out of the five trading sessions. They declined on Thursday, but this sell-off amounted to very little. When investors noted that the Thursday sell-off was small, they decided to buy rails on Friday. Good business forecasts helped the carriers generally.

PROFIT-TAKING

Stocks connected with the manufacture of the Salk polio vaccine met some buying earlier in the week, but they receded slightly later on profit-taking.

Steel shares failed to do as well as other stocks. Chrysler sparked the motors on optimistic forecasts for the company. The issues closed the week with a gain of 5½ points to \$80. General Motors added 2 points to \$97½.

International Business Machines was a sensational performer in the specialties. It spurred 29 points to \$433.

Chemical stocks displayed a considerable amount of strength at mid-week. They lost part of their gains later, but still managed to post good gains. Monsanto chemical was up 8½ points to \$124¾. Du Pont added 2½ points to \$175¾.

In the steel group, Bethlehem Steel eased ¾ to \$136. US Steel added 1½ points to \$83¼. Directors of both of these giant steel producers met a week after next to take dividend action and at the same time will reveal first quarter earnings results. Wall Street quarters expect record results. —United Press.

MALAYAN TRADE UP

Singapore, Apr. 16.
Malaya's foreign trade during the first month of 1955 showed a favourable balance of \$87,200,000, according to statistics released here.

Imports of merchandise, including parcel post, during January, amounted to \$828,700,000 and exports of merchandise, including parcel post, ship's stores and bunkers \$829,900,000. The total value of the country's foreign trade during January was \$558,600,000. —France-Press.

The Bank of France Statement

Paris, Apr. 17.
The Bank of France statement for the week ended April 7, read as follows:
Total gold holdings 201,281,591,625 francs
Total foreign currencies 10,819,190,401
Sight balance abroad 99,036,700,730
Advanced to Govt. 181,500,000,000
Total bills accounted 122,016,769,699
Bank note in circulation 2,900,997,377,210
Current accounts and deposits 120,058,999,014
—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:
US dollar (per £1) 2.79
Sterling notes (per £1) 12.78
Indonesian rupiah (per 100) 13.52
Batu tulis (per 100) 27.54
Singapore (Straits) 1.20
Indo-China piastres (per 100) 8.75

Total Surplus Slightly Smaller Than Previous Year

From Our Own Correspondent

London, Apr. 17.
The marked deterioration in the United Kingdom's balance of payments in the second half of last year has tended to obscure the fact that the year as a whole produced a surplus only slightly smaller than in 1953. This is of especial importance to overseas sterling countries. For it meant that leading private businessmen in Britain were again able to play a leading role in the financing of their development schemes.

According to the Economic Survey, "Over the past few years gross (mainly private) long-term investment abroad has averaged a little over £200 million a year, of which much the greater part has been in the sterling area."

The favourable balance achieved last year on current account made available £180 million for improving the gold reserves, reducing debts to other countries and international organisations or lending abroad. In the event Britain did all these things. Gold reserves went up by £87 million, liabilities to the International Monetary Fund, the European Payments Union etc. were reduced by £115 million and investments abroad amounted to some £150 million. To do all this Britain had of course to incur some new liabilities and these show up in the balance of payments figures as additions to sterling balances held by other countries.

NEW DEBTS
The bulk of the sterling balances accumulated in 1954 represent new United Kingdom debts to the colonies. Of the total increase of £195 million the non-sterling countries increased their balance in London by £80 million; the independent sterling countries reduced theirs by £9 million; and the colonies went up by £124 million, bringing their total to £1,226 million.

The annual rise in the colonies' sterling balances has been subject to much ill-informed comment. It has been said—and not always by people whose aim is to be devil's advocates between the United Kingdom and its overseas dependent territories—that Britain is "living off her colonies." This is far from the truth.

As the Economic Survey points out, the colonies possess few independent financial institutions of their own and therefore rely to a great extent on London to meet their demands for long-term capital and for the investment of surplus funds they may accumulate.

ANY TIME
"These processes," it says, "may occur at one and the same time and the flow of long-term investment represents a substantial offset against the rise in the colonial sterling balances." This appears to be what happened last year.

Part of the colonial sterling balances represents backing for colonial note issues and this forms an essential reserve which is automatically as the amount of the currency circulating in line with internal spending power.

The produce marketing boards' funds are also kept in London until such time as they are needed in the export of agricultural commodities and to stabilise the incomes of local producers.

REMAINDER
The remainder of the balances consist of general reserves of colonial governments that are not immediately required for local use, pension and provident funds, savings bank funds and so on.

But the fact about all these funds which is overlooked is that they can be withdrawn at short notice. In the meantime they are invested in London and, of course, earn interest for their owners.

The charges that somehow Britain is "living off her colonies" cannot be supported by the facts. But the constant growth of these balances causes concern for quite different reasons.

Whatever their degrees of permanence from the coloniser point of view, to the United Kingdom they represent a short-term debt. New colonial balances accumulated last year were the main item on the debit side of the United Kingdom's balance of payments on capital account. And there can be no real satisfaction with a situation in which Britain is able to add to her reserves, repay foreign debts and increase her long-term investment abroad only by "borrowing short" from her colonies.

THE BULK
Another criticism sometimes heard in London arises out of the fact that the bulk of the colonial balances are held by comparatively few territories. It has been estimated that at the end of last June 90 per cent of the balances were held by West Africa, East and Central Africa, Malaya and Hongkong. The total balances of all other colonial territories were about £110 million out of a total of £1,188 million.

It is not surprising that the balances should be concentrated largely in the hands of "richer" territories whose products command good markets overseas. But as a larger proportion represents the surplus funds of produce marketing boards, it is felt that the time may have come for the boards to pay higher prices to the producers. This would not only help to reduce the vast amounts held in Britain against a fall of prices, but also to encourage

MALAYAN TIN EXPORTS

Singapore, Apr. 17.
Exports of tin and tin concentrates from Singapore and Malaya to foreign countries during March last amounted to 7,589 tons, according to official statistics. Of the quantity 116 tons went to the United Kingdom, 5,178 tons to the United States, 629 tons to the Continent and 521 tons to the British possessions. About 1,145 tons went to other parts of the world. —France-Press.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$635,880. Noon quotations and the morning's quotations:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HSBC	1220	45	1350
INDUSTRIALS			
Union	1025	55	1005
Lombard	50 1/2		
SHIPPING			
Asia Nav	76		
DOCKS, ETC.			
Wharf	77	80	
Dock	24	70	
Provident (O)	11 1/2	12	
Wholesale	7 1/2	7 3/4	3000 @ 7 1/2
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	17		
HK Land	64	65	200 @ 65
Summit			
X Rts			16 90
UTILITIES			
Tram	20 40	20 50	2450 @ 20 1/2
Yankee Ferry	100	130	250 @ 107
X All	18 1/2	20	700 @ 18 1/2
C. Light (O)	10	10 1/2	100 @ 10 1/2
C. Light (N)	13 1/2	14	800 @ 13 1/2
Electric	25 1/2	25 1/2	1000 @ 25 1/2
Telephone	22 1/2	23	500 @ 22 1/2
			2500 @ 22 1/2
INDUSTRIALS			
X All	28 1/2	29 1/2	2500 @ 28 1/2
Rope			15 60
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	23 1/2	24	500 @ 23 1/2
Wilson	18 1/2	19	1000 @ 18 1/2
COTTONS			
Textile Corp.	6 1/2		
Nanyang	8 7/8		
MISCELLANEOUS			
Allied			4 1/2

Frankfurt, Apr. 17.
For the first time since the West German private investment capital in 1954 almost equalled capital from public sources, according to the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Reconstruction Loan Corporation) in its annual report.

The Corporation remarks on the fact that investment from ERP—counterpart funds—hitherto, the main source of finance—declined in 1954 to 135.3 million marks, while the bulk of investment was drawn from ERP special funds which were swollen by credit repayments and accumulated interest payments to about 6,400 million marks.

The Corporation says that it has earmarked about 100 million marks from ERP special funds for credit repayments and interest payments in 1955-59 for financing German exports particularly of investment goods on long-term payment terms.

ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION
Another contribution to West German export financing is provided by the Corporation is the promise by a number of public institutions to provide about 100 million marks for this purpose.

The Corporation stresses that the West German capital market cannot, in the next few years, bear the burden of financing foreign long-term development projects without endangering urgently needed domestic investment projects. It is therefore important, the report says, for the maintenance of the West German export volume that Germany's customers make full use of the "classical financing methods" through the use of international capital markets once the free flow of international capital is restored.—China Mail Special.

The Bank of England Statement

London, Apr. 17.
The Bank of England statement for the week ended April 15, read as follows:
Note in circulation 1,729,597,584
Public deposits 411,239,829
Private deposits 308,441,627
Government securities 22,708,321
Other securities 22,820,056
Receipts 1,130
Ratio —United Press.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 53, Queen's Building, Tel: 26851

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE
"CAMBODGE" sailing May 21st
"LAOS" sailing Jan. 18th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"MEINAM" sailing Apr. 18th
"PEHO" sailing May 15th

Holidays, Budget & Strike Keep Market Quiet

From Our Own Correspondent

London, Apr. 17.
The past week has been a very quiet one for the London Stock Exchange. The national newspaper strike was partly to blame—brokers report that since the stoppage began business with private clients has declined by half. But business would in any case been kept to a minimum in the week that separated Easter week from Budget day.

Business was restricted, moreover, by the universal belief that the general election is now close at hand.

Despite the fall in volume of business, the market remained steady after the holidays and prices moved to slightly under the lead of gilt-edged.

The inducement here has been the recent strengthening of sterling which is taken as an indication that Mr. Butler's monetary medicine is beginning to have desired effect.

HOPES ENCOURAGED

Budget hopes have also encouraged a more confident outlook and the concessions are expected to be the order of the day next Tuesday. Two of the best sections in the first half of the week were breweries and steels—first on the hopes of a cut in the tax on beer, and the second on the belief that the Tories will win the next election by a handsome margin and save the steel from the socialist threat of nationalisation.

These facts helped to push the Financial Times Industrial shares index to its highest level since before the last bank rate rise. At 188.4 on Wednesday it had gained a point since the previous week's close and was nearly nine points higher than when the newspaper strike began.

OTHER INFLUENCES

On Thursday, however, other influences came into play and prices lost some ground. Higher interest rates in the United States kept gilt-edged quiet while a disappointing dividend from Unilever and a sharp fall in prices

its by Cunard unsettled industrials.

Newspaper shares remained steady until Friday—though the Daily Mirror and the Sunday Pictorial both shed a few pennies on disappointment with the dividend announcements—when the failure of Thursday's "peace" talks caused prices to be marked down.

MOSTLY REGAINED

But losses were mostly regained before the close. In other sections copper shares lost ground on the fall in the metal price following the British Government's announcement that it is to sell 45,000 tons of copper from its stockpile.

South African gold shares rallied strongly after midweek. Oils were firm on encouraging reports from Standard Oil but turned weaker later. Conditions in the market for tea and rubber shares were quiet.

U.S. RAW COTTON EXPORTS

New York, Apr. 17.
Raw cotton exports by destination as reported in sales by the New York Cotton Exchange for the 1954-55 season to April 10 were as follows:
Britain 1,434,790
Continents 928,423
Orient 214,700
Total for season 2,577,913
Same period last year 2,513,430
—United Press.

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator—passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"LENEVERETT"

Arrives Apr. 25 from Manila.
Sails Apr. 26 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Chittagong & Calcutta.

"REBEVERETT"

Arrives Apr. 30 from Singapore.
Sails May 1 for Kobe & Yokohama.
(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight—refrigerator service to Japan, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf.
(Subject to inducement for direct call Korea)

"THAI"

Arrives Apr. 19 from Singapore.
Sails Apr. 19 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives Apr. 18 from Japan.
Sails Apr. 19 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah, Kuwait & Bahrain.

(LIMITED PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION)

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama with limited liability)

Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

Queen's Building, Telephone 37206.

